## MEETING

# STATE OF CALIFORNIA

## INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD

# PERMITTING AND ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

JOE SERNA, JR., CALEPA BUILDING

1001 I STREET

2ND FLOOR

COASTAL HEARING ROOM

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2006 10:00 A.M.

JAMES F. PETERS, CSR, RPR CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTER LICENSE NUMBER 10063

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#### APPEARANCES

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Ms. Rosalie Mulé, Chairperson
- Ms. Cheryl Peace
- Ms. Pat Wiggins

#### BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Jeffrey Danzinger

#### STAFF

- Mr. Mark Leary, Executive Director
- Ms. Julie Nauman, Chief Deputy Director
- Mr. Elliot Block, Acting Chief Counsel
- Mr. Howard Levenson, Deputy Director
- Mr. Michael Bledsoe, Senior Staff Counsel
- Mr. Mark de Bie, Manager, Permitting and Inspection Branch
- Ms. Christine Karl
- Mr. Scott Walker, Manager, Remediation, Closure, & Technical Services Branch
- Mr. Glen Young, Supervisor, Closed, Illegal, and Abandoned Sites Section

#### ALSO PRESENT

- Mr. Evan Edgar, California Refuse Removal Council
- Mr. Matt Fore, Enforcement Advisory Council
- Mr. Chuck Helget, Allied Waste, BFI
- Ms. Rebecca Lafrieniere, City of San Diego LEA

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# APPEARANCES CONTINUED

# ALSO PRESENT

- Ms. Pamela Raptis, County of San Diego
- Mr. Pete Oda, Los Angeles County LEA
- Mr. Larry Sweetser, Rural County ESJPA
- Mr. Chuck White, Waste Management
- Mr. Tom White, Los Angeles County LEA

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PROCEEDINGS 1 2 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Good morning, everyone. Welcome to the October 10th meeting of Permitting and 3 4 Enforcement Committee. 5 We have agendas on the back table. And if anyone would like to speak to the Committee, there are speaker 6 7 slips for you to fill out and bring up to Donnell. And also I'd like to ask everyone to please 8 either turn off or put in the silent mode your cell phones 9 and pagers. 10 And with that, I just want to make -- there is 11 something for us to note this morning. Committee Item E, 12 Consideration of the a Revised Full Solid Waste Facilities 13 14 Permit for Patrero Hills Landfill in Solano County, will not be heard this morning. Instead it will be heard at 15 the 5 p.m. today in Fairfield at the Solano County 16 Government Center. 17 With that, Donnell, would you please call the 18 19 roll. SECRETARY DUCLO: Members Peace? 20 21 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Here. SECRETARY DUCLO: Wiggins? 22 Chair Mulé? 23 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Here. 24 25 And I understand Board Member Wiggins is on her

- 1 way. And so we'll keep the roll open for her.
- 2 And do we have any ex partes?
- 3 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: No, I'm up to date.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: As am I.
- 5 And we'll hold that open as well.
- 6 With that, I guess we're ready for our Deputy
- 7 Director's Report.
- 8 Good morning, Howard.
- 9 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: Good morning, Madam
- 10 Chair and Member Peace. I'm Howard Levenson, Deputy
- 11 Director for Permitting and Enforcement. And I have a
- 12 number of different items I want to share with you this
- 13 morning.
- 14 First, I'd like to give you a quick update on
- 15 Avian Influenza planning. Last Wednesday, Bernie Vlach
- 16 and Bob Holmes from our staff participated with other Cal
- 17 EPA staff in a regional Avian Influenza response exercise.
- 18 This was a tabletop exercise. It was co-sponsored by the
- 19 California Office of Homeland Security and the Fresno
- 20 County Office of Emergency Services. There were a lot of
- 21 other state agencies and local and federal entities
- 22 represented as well.
- Our efforts at Cal EPA are focused on assisting
- 24 the lead state agencies, which is Food and Ag, Department
- 25 of Health Services, and Food and Game, especially in the

- 1 areas of disinfection, waste disposal and water quality.
- So the exercise was designed to test response
- 3 plans and also apply lessons that had been learned from
- 4 the recent cattle mortalities in the Central Valley. This
- 5 is all designed to be able to respond to the event that
- 6 the highly pathogenic strain of Avian Influenza is
- 7 detected in wild, domestic or commercial flocks in
- 8 California, which, you know, we're hoping does not happen
- 9 but may be happening this fall.
- 10 Secondly, I'd like to give you a quick update on
- 11 the South Coast Air Quality Management District
- 12 proposed -- well, Rule 410. It's no longer a proposed
- 13 rule. On October 6th, last Friday, the Governing Board of
- 14 the South Coast District did adopt Rule 410 regarding odor
- 15 emissions from MRFs and transfer stations.
- As I think everyone knows, we have continually
- 17 questioned the need for the rule given the number of
- 18 problem facilities involved. But we've also recognized
- 19 the need to be proactive in preventing future problems.
- 20 And we did work with the South Coast staff to incorporate
- 21 an alternative odor management plan approach into the
- 22 rule. That would allow for submittal of these alternate
- 23 plans by operators to the LEA rather than South Coast.
- 24 We will be working on guidance to the LEAs as
- 25 well as meeting with them in roundtables and with the

- 1 Enforcement Advisory Council next month to keep the word
- 2 going out to LEAs who are impacted by this rule and also
- 3 to operators who are similarly impacted.
- 4 A couple of cleanups that I want to give you a
- 5 status report on. In September you approved the cleanup
- 6 of landfill fires at a previously unknown site at
- 7 Candlestick Point Recreational Area in San Francisco.
- 8 That cleanup was successful. It was completed on
- 9 September 26th in accordance with the Board's direction
- 10 and in conjunction with the Department of Parks and Rec,
- 11 the San Francisco Fire Department, and U.S. EPA Region 9.
- 12 We also are very engaged in cleanups and illegal
- 13 dumping prevention on the Torres/Martinez Reservation. In
- 14 fact, let's see, in about ten days there's going to be a
- 15 press event that Chair Mulé will be at to highlight the
- 16 efforts being undertaken at the Torres/Martinez
- 17 reservation. There is an interagency stakeholder working
- 18 group that's coordinated by U.S. EPA. And we have Board
- 19 staff from the Solid Waste Cleanup Program are directly
- 20 involved in that.
- 21 We've been requested to assist or to help clean
- 22 up two potential -- two high priority open-dump areas on
- 23 the reservation under the Solid Waste Cleanup Program.
- 24 These are the Ibanez property and the Tayawa illegal
- 25 disposal site.

- 1 We're currently on the Ibanez property developing
- 2 plans with the consultant and the contractor, looking at
- 3 cost estimates. And we anticipated a cleanup project for
- 4 that particular site, which might be brought forward for
- 5 your consideration next month. It might be December if
- 6 things aren't quite ready at that time.
- 7 The Other site, the Tayawa site, was approved in
- 8 August for a Board-managed cleanup. And I'm pleased to
- 9 report that that was successfully completed on September
- 10 18th. It included removal of a large area of illegally
- 11 dumped solid waste, tires and C&D debris, and also
- 12 involved the construction of a berm and a trench to
- 13 prevent future dumping.
- 14 One of the site issues that popped up during this
- 15 cleanup is that during the project a large quantity of
- 16 treated wood waste that had been used for grape stakes was
- 17 removed from the site by the adjacent former for reuse.
- 18 We didn't have to have our contractor handle that material
- 19 and incorporate that into the project costs. Information
- 20 had become available during the project to our staff that
- 21 identified the farmer as being responsible for the treated
- 22 wood waste. So we were able to get that person to go
- 23 ahead and clean up the material that they had deposited
- 24 there.
- 25 The tribe and the agencies are certainly very

- 1 appreciative of our assistance. And as I noted earlier,
- 2 there's a press event scheduled for the 20th.
- 3 Lastly, I wanted to mention that Member Mulé and
- 4 then I attended the annual Conference of -- California
- 5 Conference of Directors of Environmental Health, or CCDEH,
- 6 meeting a couple of weeks ago to speak on solid waste
- 7 policy issues. Member Mulé spoke on issues in general.
- 8 And then Ken Stewart also joined and spoke about illegal
- 9 dumping.
- 10 I think a couple things to note there is that --
- 11 one is that CCDEH continues to laud its relationship with
- 12 the Board as a model for other state agencies to emulate.
- 13 One of the other ways in which we engage with LEA
- 14 programs is through the Enforcement Advisory Council,
- 15 which we meet with here in the Cal EPA building on a
- 16 bimonthly basis. And several of you, you've worked with
- 17 the EAC over the years. And you'll probably hear from
- 18 them on the permit implementation regulations item later
- 19 today.
- 20 At the last meeting, three new officers were
- 21 elected for a two-year term. The new chair is Matt
- 22 Fore -- Matt, why don't you -- who's in the audience
- 23 today. And so hopefully you'll have more discussions with
- 24 Matt. The co-vice chairs are Jackie Adams from down south
- 25 and then Sue Markie from our own EA section.

- 1 At this time I also want to acknowledge the
- 2 dedication and outstanding work of the outgoing officers,
- 3 Bill Prince, who's been chair for two years and you've
- 4 seen here many times, from the City of San Diego; and the
- 5 co-vice chairs, Patty Henshaw from Orange County and
- 6 Leonard Grossberg from the City of Vernon.
- 7 With that, I'll close my report and be happy to
- 8 answer any questions.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Howard.
- 10 Are there any questions?
- 11 With that, then let's move into our agenda.
- 12 Our first item is a presentation. It's October
- 13 Board Agenda Item 12 and Committee Item B.
- 14 (Thereupon an overhead presentation was
- 15 Presented as follows.)
- 16 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: This is a presentation
- 17 which we try to do about once every year on our Closed,
- 18 Illegal and Abandoned Site Program. It's one of those I
- 19 think hidden gems of the Board. It's not something that
- 20 you see a lot of items coming before you. But it's
- 21 something where we are doing a lot of exemplary work kind
- 22 of behind the scenes, literally in the trenches, looking
- 23 at old sites that have been abandoned and whatnot, and
- 24 trying to figure out which ones warrant further action,
- 25 which ones may be something that are a lower priority.

- 1 I'm not going to say anything more. I'm going to
- 2 turn it over to Scott. And we have about a 20, 25-minute
- 3 presentation by our staff and some case studies by the
- 4 LEAs to kind of highlight how this program works and the
- 5 good work that it's able to do.
- 6 REMEDIATION, CLOSURE & TECHNICAL SERVICES BRANCH
- 7 MANAGER WALKER: Thank you. Scott Walker, Permitting and
- 8 Enforcement Division.
- 9 I'm going to start an overview of this item, then
- 10 hand off to Glenn Young who is the Closed, Illegal and
- 11 Abandoned Site -- we call it CIA -- Program Project
- 12 Manager -- Program Manager.
- 13 We're also privileged today to have Tom White and
- 14 Pete Oda from the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Local
- 15 Enforcement Agency to provide the case example. The
- 16 Belmont Shores Mobile Home Park site case example is a
- 17 great success story of a very complicated case where the
- 18 partnership of the program and the LEA made it happen.
- 19 Again, to summarize. The CIA program was
- 20 established in 2001. And the core responsibility is to
- 21 ensure compliance with state minimum standards and
- 22 protection of public health and safety and the environment
- 23 by assisting LEAs on closed, illegal, and abandoned site
- 24 investigation, enforcement and, if necessary, remediation.
- The focus is on ensuring remediation of sites

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1 posing significant threats by the responsible parties; and

- 2 if the responsible parties cannot be identified or are
- 3 unable or unwilling to perform a timely cleanup, to
- 4 provide timely referrals to the Board's cleanup programs.
- 5 An additional focus is to apply the highest
- 6 environmental science and engineering professional
- 7 standards to this effort, which we really take pride in.
- When the program started we had over 3,000
- 9 closed, illegal and abandoned sites listed in our SWIS
- 10 system. And the vast majority of these sites are these
- 11 pre-regulation closed sites with very limited information
- 12 to verify compliance and prioritize based on threat. At
- 13 that time we really didn't have a handle on the universe
- 14 of known sites. But now we feel pretty confident that we
- 15 have a good handle on it.
- 16 Although we continue to discover new sites, and
- 17 the Candlestick Point site is an example, and also the
- 18 conditions of existing sites may change, the program has
- 19 screened out about 60 high priority sites for
- 20 investigation, another 1200 sites for ongoing inspection
- 21 and tracking of land use by local enforcement agencies.
- 22 And there's another 250 sites that are covered by
- 23 oversight under the Board's closure program.
- 24 There's about 18 enforcement orders that are
- 25 currently active related to this program. We were able to

- 1 archive about 1500 site listings because the site didn't
- 2 exist. We spent a lot of time with the LEAs to make sure
- 3 that, you know, we could sign off and archive these sites,
- 4 the listing was in error, the site was clean-closed, or
- 5 the site was determined to pose no threat.
- 6 There's about 400 additional sites, primarily the
- 7 illegal disposal sites, that are referred inactive or
- 8 pending on their oversight of the cleanup programs, the
- 9 Solid Waste Cleanup Program or the Farm and Ranch Grant
- 10 Program.
- 11 With that, I'd like to now hand off to Glenn
- 12 Young, who will go into a little more depth on the
- 13 program.
- 14 CLOSED, ILLEGAL & ABANDONED SITES SECTION
- 15 SUPERVISOR YOUNG: Good morning, Chair Mulé and Board
- 16 Member Peace.
- 17 First I'd like to thank the dedicated
- 18 professional staff of the CIA group for their hard work
- 19 and technical expertise in making significant progress on
- 20 the CIA objectives in the BCP. They've traveled
- 21 throughout the state to many locations to perform these
- 22 investigations as well as assist LEAs in the inspection of
- 23 these sites.
- 24 I'd also like to thank Pete Oda and Tom White for
- 25 being here from the Los Angeles County LEA and presenting

- 1 a case study on a site that we -- a high priority site
- 2 that we have partnered with to work with them on.
- 3 The CIA program assists LEAs in the inspection,
- 4 investigation and enforcement of state minimum standards
- 5 at priority CIA sites throughout California. This is
- 6 included over -- oh, could we have the next slide.
- 7 --00--
- 8 CLOSED, ILLEGAL & ABANDONED SITES SECTION
- 9 SUPERVISOR YOUNG: The CIA program, this has included
- 10 conducting over 40 Phase 1 office and field
- 11 investigations. And in conducting these Phase 1 and 2
- 12 field -- office and field investigations, we spent
- 13 \$800,000 on our environmental lab services contracts,
- 14 which is an integral tool to the program to be able to
- 15 provide this assistance to LEAs.
- We've also developed CIA priority lists to help
- 17 us to track which sites are important for us to take a
- 18 look at and investigate with the LEAs. We then put over
- 19 1300 inspection reports per year for these CIA sites to
- 20 help maintain a database that allows us to prioritize the
- 21 sites.
- 22 And also, finally, we manage technical support to
- 23 the LEAs through several means, a website and training
- 24 during conferences and separate training sessions.
- 25 --000--

- 1 CLOSED, ILLEGAL & ABANDONED SITES SECTION
- 2 SUPERVISOR YOUNG: So just to give you an idea of some of
- 3 the types of projects that we've been working on with the
- 4 LEAs. The CIA programs installed two continuous gas
- 5 monitoring systems at the Newport Terrace Condominiums in
- 6 Orange County and the Belmont Shores Mobile Home Park in
- 7 Long Beach. Both systems have operated continuously for a
- 8 year.
- 9 The Newport Terrace system hasn't detected any
- 10 levels of gas that exceed the 1.25 percent rule in our
- 11 regulations. And the Belmont Shores has had some isolated
- 12 exceedances above 1.25 percent. And we're currently
- 13 investigating those exceedances of 1.25 percent.
- 14 Tom White will be going over the Belmont Shores
- 15 case study, and that will give you some clue as to the
- 16 health and safety issues at that site.
- 17 Both systems have assisted the LEAs though in
- 18 determining this 1.25 percent rule for structures near
- 19 landfills, which is generally difficult to obtain the data
- 20 for simply because one-time sampling events may not be
- 21 representative. The continuous monitoring systems allow
- 22 the documentation of these gas concentrations within
- 23 structures to be able to allow the LEA to make a call on
- 24 whether or not controls are required.
- 25 I'd like to thank Mr. Abel Martinez for his hard

- 1 work and technical expertise on these continuous
- 2 monitoring projects.
- 3 --000--
- 4 CLOSED, ILLEGAL & ABANDONED SITES SECTION
- 5 SUPERVISOR YOUNG: The CIA group has also installed gas
- 6 monitoring networks that meet 27 CCR standards at 9
- 7 separate locations across California. The wells have all
- 8 been monitored quarterly for a year, monthly in some
- 9 locations, to determine if landfill gas migration was
- 10 occurring and if the site was in violation of 27 CCR,
- 11 Section 2919.
- 12 These monitoring networks provide the data needed
- 13 by LEAs to enforce the gas standards at high priority
- 14 sites, particularly where residential land-use exists and
- 15 where the site has multiple property owners.
- My hard working and dedicated staff, Ms. Dawn
- 17 Owen, has been traveling the state and logging a lot of
- 18 frequent flier miles in order to monitor these gas wells.
- 19 But I think one thing to kind of illustrate some
- 20 of the problems that we have at the site is, because our
- 21 regulations only allow us to go after the current RP on a
- 22 site, with these urban sites being subdivided and owned by
- 23 multiple parties, it makes it very difficult for LEAs go
- 24 out and enforce some of these gas standards. So we work
- 25 with -- sometimes we'll work with the city to obtain

- 1 permission to install these wells in streets to allow for
- 2 the installation of the wells and to determine if there's
- 3 a problem with gas migration.
- 4 --000--
- 5 CLOSED, ILLEGAL & ABANDONED SITES SECTION
- 6 SUPERVISOR YOUNG: Here's an example of a gas monitoring
- 7 well network. This is a site in southern California.
- 8 It's a golf course. The site was -- had residential
- 9 development right up to the edge of waste, not allowing
- 10 for perimeter monitoring probes to be installed between
- 11 the waste footprint and the residential structures. So we
- 12 actually ended up having to install gas monitoring wells
- 13 out in the street. So that just kind of gives you an idea
- 14 of some the complexities of enforcing that standard at an
- 15 urbanized site.
- --o0o--
- 17 CLOSED, ILLEGAL & ABANDONED SITES SECTION
- 18 SUPERVISOR YOUNG: And here are just some pictures from
- 19 some of the gas monitoring well installation projects that
- 20 we worked on. The center diagram represents a 27 CCR
- 21 multi-probe -- multi-depth probe, which allows us to
- 22 understand the subsurface geology and where gas is
- 23 migrating.
- --000--
- 25 CLOSED, ILLEGAL & ABANDONED SITES SECTION

- 1 SUPERVISOR YOUNG: This is a list of some of the sites
- 2 where we've investigated the waste extents for landfills.
- 3 Coming back to the comment that Howard had made earlier
- 4 about trenching, we generally try to stay out of our
- 5 trenches because the health and safety program doesn't
- 6 allow us to go into the trench. So even though we are
- 7 working hard in the trenches, not literally working in the
- 8 trenches.
- 9 AT these sites we've investigated basically the
- 10 extents of the landfill as well as the cover thickness.
- 11 And generally what we're trying to do with these
- 12 investigations is determine the footprint of the former
- 13 landfill to ensure that we understand which responsible
- 14 parties and property owners are involved, as well as
- 15 determining the approximate volume and place in case a
- 16 decision has to be made on whether or not it's
- 17 economically feasible to clean-close it, and then also if
- 18 there's an adequate cap to protect public health and
- 19 safety.
- 20 So as you can see, these are some of the sites
- 21 that we've worked on to do this type of investigation.
- --000--
- 23 CLOSED, ILLEGAL & ABANDONED SITES SECTION
- 24 SUPERVISOR YOUNG: And this is just a -- this shows -- one
- 25 of the diagrams included in our work plans, which shows

- 1 where we're going to investigate the extents of the waste
- 2 as well as the cover. This is done with -- through an
- 3 historical aerial photo analysis of the site, where we
- 4 look at previous operations over time. We also conduct
- 5 geophysical investigations and surveys of the site to
- 6 determine potentially where the site is before we actually
- 7 draw them map and place the location. So we're not just
- 8 guessing at where we're going to install these, but we go
- 9 through some pretty -- we go through some processes in
- 10 order to get to this map.
- 11 --00o--
- 12 CLOSED, ILLEGAL & ABANDONED SITES SECTION
- 13 SUPERVISOR YOUNG: And here are just some of the methods
- 14 that are used to conduct these investigations. The direct
- 15 push is a geo -- there's a technology called geoprobe,
- 16 which allows the quick field investigation of a site. It
- 17 leaves a very small footprint, but allows us to
- 18 characterize the subsurface and allows us to work in
- 19 highly urbanized areas with a lot of utilities. So this
- 20 investigation method has really helped us to understand
- 21 the extents at disposal sites.
- 22 --000--
- 23 CLOSED, ILLEGAL & ABANDONED SITES SECTION
- 24 SUPERVISOR YOUNG: And where we can, we'll do trenching to
- 25 determine the extents of the disposal site because it

- 1 allows us to perform a great deal of locations for
- 2 relatively inexpensive costs.
- 3 --000--
- 4 CLOSED, ILLEGAL & ABANDONED SITES SECTION
- 5 SUPERVISOR YOUNG: And just, finally, this last slide is
- 6 the investigation results for some of our sites. I'll
- 7 give you some time to take a look at those. But basically
- 8 what we've done is taken the investigation data at several
- 9 of these sites and worked with our staff counsel, Steve
- 10 Levine, to help to advise the LEAs on enforcement actions
- 11 to take based on these findings.
- 12 Several of the cases we had no significant
- 13 findings of -- or the site complied with state minimum
- 14 standards, so there was no issue to pursue. But in some
- 15 of the cases where there was exposed waste or gas
- 16 migration occurring, we worked with the LEA and with Steve
- 17 to make sure that we had a clear strategy for how we were
- 18 going to get to addressing the RPs.
- 19 Finally, I'd like to thank Scott and Howard for
- 20 the support they provided to the CIA program, and Abel
- 21 Martinez for his managing the CIA program in my absence
- 22 this past year. I'd like to also thank Brad Penick for
- 23 his management of our contracts, which are -- there's a
- 24 lot of administration that has to be done in order to keep
- 25 those contracts in order since they're task order

- 1 contracts.
- 2 And I'd also like to thank Steve Levine for his
- 3 expert staff counsel to our staff and the LEAs to move
- 4 these sites forward to compliance.
- 5 With that, I'd like to introduce Tom White, who's
- 6 going to talk about the Belmont Shore site.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you very much.
- 8 And if I may, I'd like the record to reflect that
- 9 Pat Wiggins has joined us.
- 10 Good morning.
- 11 And also Board Member Jeff Danzinger.
- 12 Good morning. Welcome.
- 13 I thought you weren't going to be here. You're
- 14 back. You're here.
- BOARD MEMBER DANZINGER: I decided to be here.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Good.
- 17 And also are you up to date on your ex partes?
- 18 COMMITTEE MEMBER WIGGINS: Yes.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Okay. So we're good.
- Okay. Thank you.
- 21 Good morning, Tom.
- MR. WHITE: Good morning.
- 23 As Glenn said, my name's Tom White, and I'm with
- 24 Los Angeles County. And I'm responsible for the majority
- 25 of the sites we have in the City of Long Beach. And this

- 1 particular site is located in the southwest part of Long
- 2 Beach, about a mile north of the Long Beach Marina. And
- 3 it's the Belmont Shores Mobile Home Estates, where that
- 4 was primarily the focus of our investigation. But it
- 5 actually has several sites on it.
- --000--
- 7 MR. WHITE: I'll just give you a brief history.
- 8 It was a disposal site that was in operation. It was a
- 9 city dump and salvage for the City of Long Beach from 1948
- 10 to 1956. And they supposedly only accepted municipal
- 11 solid waste. But we know -- we don't assume that that's
- 12 all that's being dumped there. In fact we know that they
- 13 had some drill cuttings that were dumped there with hazard
- 14 waste. And if you listen to some of the people who live
- 15 there, some of whom remember going to the dump when they
- 16 were kids, they accepted all kinds of hazardous waste
- 17 there. So really don't know what was dumped there.
- 18 It was developed into the Belmont Shores Mobile
- 19 Estates. That's the bulk of the area. And it also has
- 20 the Gas Lamp Restaurant, the Bahia Marina, and the Golden
- 21 Sales Hotel.
- --000--
- 23 MR. WHITE: This is just a general location here.
- 24 You can see, this is Pacific Coast Highway. I don't know
- 25 if you're familiar with southern California. This is the

- 1 Los Cerritos Channel here. And it's in this general
- 2 location here.
- 3 I'm going to move through some of these aerials
- 4 pretty quick because, you know, we've got quite a few of
- 5 them.
- 6 --000--
- 7 MR. WHITE: And this is the same area, 1960.
- 8 --000--
- 9 MR. WHITE: And here's a general location for all
- 10 the sites that we were investigating. We have -- right
- 11 here is the marina -- Bahia Marina. And then this is the
- 12 general area for the mobile home estate -- mobile estates.
- 13 And then we have the -- up here it looks like for the gas
- 14 Lamp Restaurant and then the hotel along here.
- 15 --000--
- MR. WHITE: And this is a current photograph of
- 17 the area.
- And I'm going to jump a little bit ahead because
- 19 this is the best photograph to illustrate everything --
- 20 all the areas we're going to be discussing.
- 21 The Phase 1 of the project called for the
- 22 installation of 37 probes, 33 within the Belmont Shores
- 23 complex and we're going to -- we'll put in 4 outside,
- 24 around the perimeter. And you can see here the -- we'll
- 25 talk about how we just figured where to put the ones in

- 1 the Belmont Shores in a minute.
- 2 But we had one in the parking lot of the marina.
- 3 And because of its proximity to the hotel, we got some
- 4 pretty high readings there. That told us we might want to
- 5 extend our investigation to include these areas. Then we
- 6 had the Gas Lamp restaurant, we placed a probe there. It
- 7 was flooded almost immediately. We -- I don't think we
- 8 got any readings out of that probe.
- 9 Over here at the -- all the way over to the end
- 10 is a little park outside the footprint of the landfill.
- 11 That was our compliance point probe. And we took readings
- 12 and didn't get any. We were all nondetectible, so that
- 13 was good.
- 14 And then we had -- over here in this park here we
- 15 put another probe, right here. This is a golf course.
- 16 And these houses here, all of that is on landfill. And we
- 17 have a group town homes right here called Whaler's Cove.
- 18 And I do quarterly inspections on all of those sites.
- 19 And the reason we weren't quite as concerned
- 20 about these residences here is because they have an active
- 21 gas ventilation system. And they just installed a new
- 22 one, pretty high tech, that has -- when the methane
- 23 reaches a certain point, the fans kick on.
- 24 So even though we do get readings here and there
- 25 are permanent residents here, we were mainly concerned

- 1 with the residents of the mobile home park who just have a
- 2 passive ventilation system.
- 3 --000--
- 4 MR. WHITE: Okay. And then back to the
- 5 seventies, they had grading settlement gas issues. In
- 6 1973 they installed 17 vents. And they did have an
- 7 explosion in 1975, with one death. And now they continue
- 8 to have major settlement issues. It's pretty bad.
- 9 --00--
- 10 MR. WHITE: These vents had been monitored by a
- 11 private consultant and are still today monitored by a
- 12 private consultant. But in 1994, the Waste Board was
- 13 called in to evaluate, mainly due to the obvious
- 14 settlement issues, and found excessive gas in the storm
- 15 drains and vents also. So there was a recommendation for
- 16 a full scale monitoring program. And since then we've
- 17 been doing quarterly inspections of that site.
- 18 And we checked all the vents and we checked all
- 19 the drains in each individual coach. There are over 300
- 20 coaches.
- 21 And then in 1998 they installed an additional
- 22 vent, which may not seem like a big deal. But they --
- 23 apparently they were getting so much gas coming out of one
- 24 vent, they put another vent to try and just split it up.
- 25 And it turns out that vent was the -- one of the only ones

- 1 we could really trust, because we were getting readings up
- 2 to 11 percent coming out of that vent. So that was sort
- 3 of an indication that something was up.
- 4 And then in 2002 it was brought to the attention
- 5 of the CIA group.
- 6 --000--
- 7 MR. WHITE: And in 2004 my supervisor, Pete Oda,
- 8 called the Waste Board and asked for assistance in
- 9 conducting an investigation for the concerns he had had
- 10 for years with this particular site, and discussed of
- 11 course some possible mitigation measures. And I explained
- 12 why we focused on the Belmont Shores Mobile Home Park,
- 13 because of all the sensitive receptors there.
- 14 --000--
- 15 MR. WHITE: Okay. We put 33 probes within the
- 16 complex. And we didn't just pick them at random. Dawn
- 17 Owen came and reviewed every report that we had on this
- 18 site and decided that there were certain areas that had
- 19 higher concentrations of gas readings over the years. And
- 20 that's how we decided where to place the 33 probes within
- 21 the Belmont Shores complex.
- 22 --000--
- 23 MR. WHITE: And then we used a company to make
- 24 sure we didn't drill into something we shouldn't. And we
- 25 began the installation process. And I explained all 33

- 1 and then 4 around the perimeter. And we took gas samples
- 2 initially and sent them to the lab. And then Dawn Owen
- 3 and I began biweekly monitoring for a two-month period.
- 4 --000--
- 5 MR. WHITE: And these -- each of these well
- 6 casings, these 37 casings, had two to three probes at
- 7 varying depths. He had them varying from 5 feet to 13
- 8 feet. A lot of it depended on the water table. It was
- 9 very close to the water, so we had a lot of flooding
- 10 problems.
- 11 --00o--
- 12 MR. WHITE: And this just some more equipment,
- 13 I'm sure you're all familiar with.
- 14 --000--
- MR. WHITE: And this was the result that we
- 16 found. We found an -- this is an average gas
- 17 concentration, at 51.2 percent. And I think our highest
- 18 was over 80 percent at one location. And we were getting
- 19 high readings at as little as five feet in depth. So we
- 20 were concerned obviously when we got these results at
- 21 Phase 1.
- --000--
- MR. WHITE: And, again, more -- just code
- 24 sections that...
- 25 --000--

- 1 MR. WHITE: Now, based on these findings we
- 2 recommended that they install -- equipped each coach with
- 3 a gas monitoring system, because we felt this was a
- 4 significant risk. Because we weren't sure how -- what the
- 5 integrity of the cap was like. And even though we haven't
- 6 gotten any significant surface readings, we found a lot of
- 7 cracking underneath the coaches. And all it would take
- 8 would be one incident that could -- that this percentage
- 9 of methane it could quickly become a problem.
- 10 --000--
- 11 MR. WHITE: And of course we wanted to determine
- 12 if surface migration exists. And I think we satisfied
- 13 ourselves that that wasn't really an issue with our probe
- 14 outside the footprint, one of the few areas you can have
- 15 probes that are not a footprint of the landfill around
- 16 that area.
- Now, the Phase 2 of the investigation was going
- 18 to -- called for the installation of eight continuous
- 19 monitoring sensors that were going to be monitoring 24
- 20 hours a day, 7 days a week for a year.
- 21 --000--
- MR. WHITE: And the way we picked those locations
- 23 is Dawn went back to work, took all the data we got from
- 24 the Phase 1, and decided that this area in here was the --
- 25 we got quite a high concentration in this area and these

- 1 areas here. We put one over here because this is where
- 2 the explosion occurred, and we wanted to make sure we had
- 3 that covered. And then we put one I think over here to
- 4 maybe just give us a good distribution throughout the
- 5 complex.
- --000--
- 7 MR. WHITE: And what we did was we were lucky
- 8 enough -- Abel Martinez got us some very sophisticated
- 9 wireless equipment, so we didn't have to hard-wire
- 10 anything. It saved us a lot of time and trouble. We
- 11 had -- each of them were equipped with a sensor with a
- 12 transmitter, and the receiver was placed on the roof of
- 13 the laundry room, which is the highest, most centrally
- 14 located point. And then we put the data logger here in
- 15 the maintenance room -- within the laundry room.
- 16 --00o--
- 17 MR. WHITE: And so here's the sensor and the
- 18 transmitter on -- it was placed on the roof of these eight
- 19 coaches. Which, by the way, we got volunteers to -- and
- 20 we had many volunteers who were anxious to do this, and we
- 21 narrowed it down. And we picked people who had
- 22 volunteered to do this to make sure that everything was
- 23 safe.
- 24 --000--
- MR. WHITE: Then we did an initial calibration

- 1 using a known quantity of gas. And since then I have been
- 2 doing the monthly calibrations throughout the year while
- 3 the project was ongoing.
- 4 --000--
- 5 MR. WHITE: More equipment here.
- --000--
- 7 MR. WHITE: And the result was basically that we
- 8 judged this being -- them to be in compliance when each
- 9 coach is equipped with a methane gas monitoring system.
- 10 --000--
- 11 MR. WHITE: At this time they have complied. And
- 12 there's a new owner. The previous owner, who had allowed
- 13 all these issues, some related to landfill and some not,
- 14 to just go unchecked for so long, declared bankruptcy.
- 15 They got sued by the residents. It was a big thing.
- 16 Great timing for us to be there.
- 17 But we have a new owner now, who appears to be
- 18 very cooperative. And they were very quick to install --
- 19 equipped each coach, again over 300 coaches, with their
- 20 own methane detection devices. And we had a few false
- 21 alarms in the beginning and I had to go out quite a bit to
- 22 check. And now I think we've got them running smoothly.
- 23 And all the residents seem to feel a lot safer knowing
- 24 that each -- this is an extra precaution for them.
- 25 And that leads us to the possibility of extending

- 1 the operation because, as I mentioned, we had those high
- 2 readings in a proximity to the hotel where you have
- 3 temporary -- lots of temporary residents. And then to a
- 4 lesser extent you have the nightclub that could be at
- 5 risk, and then the marina. So we just had a meeting with
- 6 the owner of the property. It's a single owner -- owned,
- 7 but with many lessees throughout the property. And we've
- 8 gotten them to agree -- they're submitting a proposal this
- 9 week for us to review for them to install this continuous
- 10 monitoring system in each of these locations.
- 11 So hopefully then we can give them an extra
- 12 degree of safety too.
- --000--
- 14 MR. WHITE: So unless you have any questions for
- 15 me specifically, I would like to introduce my supervisor,
- 16 Pete Oda, who has some things.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Yeah, I'm sure we have lots of
- 18 questions.
- 19 Both of you, excellent presentations. Thank you
- 20 so very much. Very, very interesting. And as you
- 21 mentioned, Scott, these are the kinds of programs that we
- 22 run here at the Board in conjunction with our LEA
- 23 partners. And we often don't hear about these success
- 24 stories. So thank you for bringing this to us.
- 25 First we have Board Member Wiggins with a

- 1 question.
- 2 COMMITTEE MEMBER WIGGINS: Yeah. With the gas
- 3 probes, what happens to the gas?
- 4 MR. WHITE: With the gas -- the probes that we
- 5 install or you mean the vents that were -- are previously
- 6 installed?
- 7 COMMITTEE MEMBER WIGGINS: Well, okay, the vents.
- 8 MR. WHITE: The vents, well, they were designed
- 9 to vent the gas. But unfortunately we discovered that a
- 10 lot of them had sunk into the ground over the years and
- 11 they weren't quite installed properly, so that they
- 12 weren't functioning as well as we'd hoped.
- 13 There may come a time where they may have to
- 14 install an active system. That's a possibility. But at
- 15 this time they just have the passive vents and they've got
- 16 many of them throughout the park that we do get some
- 17 readings from. But obviously not what we'd expect -- we
- 18 didn't expect to see this high of a concentration.
- 19 COMMITTEE MEMBER WIGGINS: Well, venting the
- 20 gas -- I don't get what happens to the gas.
- 21 MR. WHITE: Well, the main concern we have with
- 22 methane is the accumulation under the coaches in the
- 23 trailer park. And then what will happen is if it gets to
- 24 a concentration particularly between 5 and 15 percent, it
- 25 can be explosive or it can be flammable above that.

- 1 That's our main concern. It's not -- the methane will
- 2 dissipate because it's lighter than air once it's vented
- 3 out. But the main thing we're looking for is accumulation
- 4 and in confined spaces.
- 5 The other thing we're concerned about is that
- 6 methane displaces oxygen. So if it's -- we have a lot of
- 7 storm drains, sort of manhole things. If it accumulates
- 8 in those confined spaces, the oxygen can kill somebody
- 9 just -- quicker than the methane in a confined space.
- 10 But the answer to your question is, once it's
- 11 vented out, because it's lighter than air, it will
- 12 dissipate and will not, as far as we know, cause any
- 13 threat to the community. It's only when it accumulates in
- 14 a small space that it becomes a major threat.
- 15 COMMITTEE MEMBER WIGGINS: Thank you.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Board Member Peace.
- 17 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: So you'd said you have
- 18 these probes and sensors on each coach. Then you
- 19 mentioned when the readings are high. So the readings
- 20 continually go up and down then?
- 21 MR. WHITE: Actually we haven't gotten any --
- 22 since they've installed those. They're just simple
- 23 mechanism -- almost like a smoke detector that goes off at
- 24 the presence of any methane. And we hadn't -- the ones
- 25 we've had gone off -- that have gone off, I've gone out to

- 1 check and gotten nondetectible readings.
- 2 As far as our sensors, we did bet a couple of
- 3 spikes, which I went out several times to check and got
- 4 nondetectible readings. And Abel Martinez suggested that
- 5 it's possible that maybe one of the units had a pest
- 6 control service done, and that can sort of give us a false
- 7 reading.
- 8 But as far as our sensors, from what I
- 9 understand, we haven't gotten anything that was out of the
- 10 ordinary. And the detectors they've installed are set at
- 11 a very small -- very small amount -- to go off at a very
- 12 small amount of methane, much less than would be a threat.
- 13 So it's a real -- it's an extra precaution, we're
- 14 being extra careful.
- 15 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: So that gas is being
- 16 then continually vented?
- 17 MR. WHITE: They have vents set up around all
- 18 throughout the park that are supposed to vent it out. And
- 19 they are venting it to a certain degree. But we shouldn't
- 20 be seeing this high a concentration after this much time.
- 21 That's what surprised us. So we came to the conclusion
- 22 that it wasn't working as well as we'd like. And we --
- 23 the main concern is to at first make sure that the
- 24 residents are protected and we've got the alarms
- 25 installed. And now we're meeting with the owner to -- you

- 1 know, to discuss further mitigation. They're having
- 2 problems with one -- they think is a trench in one area
- 3 that the gas is coming up. They're planning on plugging
- 4 that trench just to make sure. That was the only place we
- 5 ever gotten readings outside of the park.
- And so we're working -- they're working with us
- 7 and they're being very cooperative at this point and
- 8 actually doing more than we had required them to do at
- 9 this point. And so eventually we want to make sure that
- 10 all -- that the gas is being properly vented. But at this
- 11 point our main concern were those residents, because
- 12 that's what we worry about. We worry about explosions,
- 13 then fires and things that are immediate threats to human
- 14 life.
- 15 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Okay. Thank you.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: So, Tom, are the vents
- 17 effective then?
- 18 MR. WHITE: I think to a degree they are because
- 19 we are getting readings out of some of them. But like I
- 20 said, this kind of -- we were all shocked. I mean my
- 21 supervisor, Pete Oda, knew that this was an issue because
- 22 these settlement problems and the fact that were it not
- 23 for this program, the CIA program, we would have just
- 24 continued going on and doing our one-time sampling events
- 25 and just assuming that everything was at least safe. And

- 1 we found out through this investigation through a lot of
- 2 hard work and people that had equipment that we can't have
- 3 access to and the time to go down and do the
- 4 investigation, and found out we -- there was more than we
- 5 had thought. So we're going to now address that. But I
- 6 think that now we've done the best we can right now to get
- 7 the residents protected from any kind of threat --
- 8 immediate threat.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Right. And the methane is
- 10 high because it's -- because of the nature of the
- 11 landfill --
- 12 MR. WHITE: Yeah. And it was -- I don't know
- 13 whether it's to do with the water table or -- there's a
- 14 lot of other industry around there. And from what I here
- 15 from the people who lived there for 30, 40 years, that
- 16 they had -- there's a big plant, chemical or power plant
- 17 there. And they have had spills that they didn't report,
- 18 according to some people. And there's so much going on
- 19 there, we really don't know what causes it to be that
- 20 high. We just know we have to deal with it, now that it's
- 21 there.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Very interesting.
- 23 Pete, if you want to come up, introduce yourself
- 24 to the Committee.
- Thank you for being here, by the way, both of

- 1 you. Really appreciate it.
- 2 MR. ODA: First of all I'd like to -- My name's
- 3 Pete Oda. I'd like to thank Tom for his excellent
- 4 presentation.
- 5 My presentation is going to be limited.
- 6 Chairperson Mulé, Board members, Howard, and CIA
- 7 staff. It gives me great pleasure to recognize one of
- 8 your dedicated staff members. She doesn't know this, but
- 9 I would like to present Dawn Owen with a Certificate of
- 10 appreciation.
- Dawn, can you please come up please.
- 12 (Applause.)
- 13 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Well deserved.
- 14 MR. ODA: I'd just like to read the certificate.
- 15 "Certificate of Appreciation awarded to Dawn
- 16 Owen, Waste Management Specialist, California Integrated
- 17 Waste Management Board, in recognition of your dedicated
- 18 service to the Los Angeles County Local Enforcement Agency
- 19 and the citizens of Los Angeles County." And then in
- 20 parentheses it says, "continue your commitment to save one
- 21 landfill at a time."
- 22 (Applause.)
- 23 MR. ODA: Okay. And so doing, the presentation
- 24 that you heard today on Belmont Shores is just one example
- 25 of numerous closed landfill sites throughout the state

- 1 that still today after 30 plus years still have gas
- 2 issues. The County of Los Angeles Local Enforcement
- 3 Agency would encourage the Waste Board to continue their
- 4 effort and funding this section of the program. We feel
- 5 it is a vital component and a necessary service provided
- 6 to the LEAs for the protection of public health and the
- 7 environment.
- 8 So that's --
- 9 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you very much. I
- 10 personally agree with you. This is a very important
- 11 program that we should continue and expand, if we can.
- Okay. Any other questions?
- Board Member Peace.
- 14 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: I just had a general
- 15 question. We hear that there's numerous closed landfills.
- 16 How confident are we that all the CIA sites have
- 17 been identified?
- 18 REMEDIATION, CLOSURE & TECHNICAL SERVICES BRANCH
- 19 MANAGER WALKER: Well, I think that -- Scott Walker,
- 20 Permitting and Enforcement Division. We do find new
- 21 sites. We look for them. And we find several each year.
- 22 I think it's to the point now where -- in the early years
- 23 we were finding a lot more that we didn't know of. Now
- 24 it's like not as often. So I think we have a pretty good
- 25 handle on it. But that's not to say we are going to

- 1 identify new sites. But I think the real main ones, I
- 2 think we're a lot more confident now that we have a pretty
- 3 good capture of those. But there still are some other
- 4 areas that we're looking at right now for many of these
- 5 sites.
- 6 One of the areas is the indian reservation lands,
- 7 which we have a lot of open dumps. Now we're just
- 8 starting to get, you know, involved in that, although it's
- 9 primarily U.S. EPA jurisdiction though.
- 10 But, yeah, we will find more. We feel more
- 11 confident we really have the main ones out there.
- 12 And, also, I think with illegal disposal sites,
- 13 they tend to pop up. Didn't exist before and all of a
- 14 sudden they're there. And they're a large site that needs
- 15 to be worked on.
- 16 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: So a lot of these old
- 17 ones, how are they found? Is it like somebody goes to
- 18 build a house or a development or something and starts
- 19 uncovering this stuff? Or how are they usually found?
- 20 CLOSED, ILLEGAL & ABANDONED SITES SECTION
- 21 SUPERVISOR YOUNG: That's exactly the case. For instance,
- 22 at Elvas Avenue, which is at St. Francis High School, that
- 23 site was actually found because they were doing
- 24 preliminary activities for constructing the Performing
- 25 Arts Center and detected levels of gas. And their

- 1 geotechnical borings, that indicated that there was
- 2 something wrong with the site. The Sacramento County LEA
- 3 was unable to find this site up until that information was
- 4 divulged to them by the consultant who was working on that
- 5 project.
- 6 So that is actually one of the -- probably that's
- 7 going to be how we're going to find a lot of these sites
- 8 is through development of outlying areas.
- 9 But I agree with Scott. I think we have a good
- 10 handle on a lot of the county, municipality -- the
- 11 formerly operated disposal sites in California. But as
- 12 far as privately owned sites, we may not have necessarily
- 13 a good, you know, handle on those.
- 14 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: So like the Belmont
- 15 Shores site, when you say it was from the forties and the
- 16 fifties, that just goes to show that these disposal sites
- 17 can pose a threat long past 30 years.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Okay. Any other questions or
- 19 comments?
- 20 Also, if I could just make another announcement
- 21 to either please turn off your cell phones or put them in
- 22 the silent mode. We just want to make sure that we can --
- 23 all of our equipment is working here. And Board Member
- 24 Wiggins seems to be having a problem. So --
- 25 COMMITTEE MEMBER WIGGINS: If there's speakers on

- 1 and they're not using it.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Okay. So if your microphones
- 3 are on, turn them off when you're not using them.
- 4 Thank you.
- 5 All right. Thank you -- again, everyone, thank
- 6 you very much. Excellent presentation.
- 7 Let's move on then. Our next agenda item is
- 8 Committee Item C, Board Agenda Item 13.
- 9 And, Howard, I'll hand it over to you.
- 10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: Thank you, Madam
- 11 Chair.
- 12 And I just also want to thank Tom and Pete and
- 13 our staff, and just reiterate the number of sites that are
- 14 involved in that program that we know about -- you know,
- 15 there's 12 or 1300 that are inspected each year, several
- 16 hundred that have been referred for cleanup, and then the
- 17 60 or so that are high priority. But things keep popping
- 18 up with new encroachment and development all over the
- 19 state.
- 20 Last year we had -- the case study was the Bisso
- 21 Dump in Sonoma County. So it's in rural areas as well.
- 22 Bob Swift had handled that one. And then he was
- 23 outstanding LEA of the year. And this year we gave you an
- 24 example of a southern urban site. So it's a big problem.
- With that, Item 13 or Agenda Item C is

- 1 Consideration of the Adoption of the proposed Permit
- 2 Implementation Regulations; or Request for Direction on
- 3 Noticing Revisions to the Proposed Regulations for a
- 4 Second 15-Day Comment Period.
- 5 I'd like to make a couple of introductory
- 6 remarks, shorter than I did last month.
- 7 This is a very important and complicated rule
- 8 making, and it covers many major concepts that we can go
- 9 over in more detail. These include significant change in
- 10 the design and operation of a solid waste facility that's
- 11 not authorized by an existing permit. They include a
- 12 decision tree methodology for LEAs to follow in
- 13 determining how to accommodate proposed changes. And
- 14 associated with that are both a list of minor changes and
- 15 a list of significant changes that were included in the
- 16 last regulations that went out for comment.
- 17 Another category that's of major importance in
- 18 this rule making is the public noticing and hearing
- 19 requirements for new and revised permits, and the noticing
- 20 requirements for modified permits and RFI amendments.
- 21 And yet another category which we've received a
- 22 number of comments on is the relationship of the Solid
- 23 Waste Facilities Permit to local land-use entitlements.
- 24 Earlier this year the Committee directed staff to
- 25 notice the regulations -- proposed regulations for a

- 1 60-day comment period, which we did. That ended in June.
- 2 And we brought those results and those comments back to
- 3 you last month at the September Committee meeting.
- 4 At that meeting you directed us to modify the
- 5 proposed regs by the following: One is to include the
- 6 minor change list and also some minor language changes at
- 7 the end of that list; second was to include the
- 8 significant change list; and then third was to initiate
- 9 the 15-day comment period, which ended on September 26th.
- 10 So we're now seeking your direction of specific
- 11 changes to make to the existing proposed language; and to
- 12 either adopt the regulations if we can determine that
- 13 you're satisfied and that there are no substantive changes
- 14 that need to be sent out for additional public comment, or
- 15 if there are substantive changes, then we would ask that
- 16 the direct us to doing a second 15-day notice.
- 17 I'll just reiterate once again what everybody has
- 18 said. This has been in my mind an outstanding public
- 19 process. And I think everyone from the stakeholders have
- 20 done a great job of commenting and providing information.
- 21 Mark and Becky and Bobbi and Michael Bledsoe from the
- 22 Legal staff have been extremely responsive and laid out a
- 23 process that is I think a real model for many, many of
- 24 these kinds of processes.
- 25 So with that, I'll turn this over to Mr. Mark de

- 1 Bie.
- 2 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- Thank you, Howard.
- 4 Mark de Bie with Permitting and Inspection
- 5 Branch. And I'll make the bulk of the staff presentation
- 6 today and lean heavily on Bobbi and Michael for support,
- 7 as I have all through this process.
- 8 (Laughter.)
- 9 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- 10 As Howard indicated, we have just completed the
- 11 first 15-day comment period. We received 28 comment
- 12 letters, that have been posted on the Board's website.
- 13 Most of the comments focused on three main areas.
- 14 Not entirely on three main areas, but most of them focused
- 15 on the minor change list, comments regarding noticing and
- 16 the information meeting that are embedded in the regs, and
- 17 then comments relative to the regs trying to clarify the
- 18 relationship between the local land-use approvals and the
- 19 Solid Waste Facility Permit application process.
- 20 Staff have reviewed all the comments and done
- 21 their analysis on it. And in response to the comments, we
- 22 have made a number of changes to the regulations. And the
- 23 version of the regs that include the changes are found in
- 24 Attachment 2 of your package.
- 25 Currently staff's view of the changes that are in

- 1 Attachment 2 is that these are not substantial changes.
- 2 And pending the outcome of this hearing, staff doesn't see
- 3 a need to necessarily do a second comment period if we
- 4 stay with these particular changes.
- 5 I call your attention also to Attachment 1, which
- 6 is a table that summarizes the various comments received
- 7 and then staff's sort of draft approach to those comments,
- 8 sort of a beginning to what would end up being the
- 9 backbone to the final statement of reasons relative to the
- 10 regs on why they look the way they do. And in there you
- 11 can indicate -- it will be indicated where we've found a
- 12 good idea to carry forward and resulted in modifying the
- 13 regs; or if we didn't necessarily agree with the
- 14 commenters, our rationale relative to that and indication
- 15 of how we're responding or not responding to that
- 16 particular comment.
- 17 Certainly staff can walk through the current
- 18 version of the regs and indicate all of the various
- 19 changes. But before we do that, or if we need to do that,
- 20 I wanted to run through a little bit more detail of what
- 21 Howard indicated, basically giving you a sense of what
- 22 these regs in their current form will accomplish, how
- 23 they'll change the permit process.
- One of the changes that was sort of always there
- 25 and was a requirement, what really started this reg

- 1 package, was an effort to define "significant change".
- 2 And so the regs continue to include a definition of
- 3 "significant change". With this newest version we have
- 4 slightly modified that definition to strike out some
- 5 language that we had included previously relative to the
- 6 definition and how it may or may not relate to a CEQA
- 7 finding.
- 8 We found some commenters had various ideas about
- 9 what that language did or didn't do in that definition.
- 10 We thought for simplicity and clarification sake we would
- 11 just remove the language and just make a firm statement
- 12 that this definition of "significant change" only deals
- 13 with determining when a permit needs to be revised. And
- 14 that's the only purpose for this definition. If you try
- 15 to use it for any other purpose, it's inconsistent with
- 16 these regs.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Right.
- 18 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- 19 The regs continue to establish a methodology, a
- 20 decision tree to determine what kind of approval is
- 21 required for various kinds of changes, anything from a
- 22 minor change to a significant change; when would an RFI
- 23 amendment be required, a modified permit be required or a
- 24 revised permit? So that continues to be included.
- The regs continue to include a significant change

- 1 list, and there are currently only four items on that
- 2 list. If a proposed change was one which was included on
- 3 this list, it would always require that the permit be
- 4 revised. So if -- for example, if the change in the
- 5 maximum amount of permitted tonnage was to increase, that
- 6 would result in a revision. That would be independent of
- 7 the decision tree.
- 8 The regs continue to include a modified permit
- 9 process to deal with changes to the permit that aren't
- 10 considered significant; don't rise to the level of
- 11 requiring a revision, but still the permit needs to be
- 12 changed. And when I say permit, I continue to refer to
- 13 the document that the LEA writes and issues. So the regs
- 14 continue to use -- describe a process independent of the
- 15 revision process that would allow permits to change if it
- 16 was considered something less than significant and didn't
- 17 require a revision.
- 18 The regs continue to include a minor change list.
- 19 We added some clarification language in this area. One is
- 20 it was the intent to indicate that any kind of change that
- 21 could be considered minor would need to satisfy a set of
- 22 criteria and then could also be included on a list, but
- 23 the list would not be inclusive. There could be other
- 24 items that could also meet this criteria that could be
- 25 considered minor. So we added some language to link up

- 1 the criteria with the list to clarify that. Even though
- 2 you may be on the list, you still have to look at the
- 3 criteria to make sure you qualify that way too.
- 4 And then there were some edits that we had to do,
- 5 some of the numbering. We had inadvertently had included
- 6 the duplication of one of the items after some editing, so
- 7 we took care of that. So it was basically some cleanup on
- 8 that.
- 9 We did receive a number of comments relative to
- 10 the noticing requirements that were included in the regs
- 11 this time around. When I said that there were 28
- 12 comments, it was -- 16 of those were from students who as
- 13 a class assignment had prepared comments on our
- 14 regulations on one particular section. And so we thought
- 15 that their observations were great, wonderful. However,
- 16 we did not include them in the regulations. But we are
- 17 going to keep ahold of them and implement them through LEA
- 18 training as well as guidance documents relative to how an
- 19 LEA could improve upon their noticing and their
- 20 informational meeting areas.
- 21 They focus mostly on the various options that
- 22 LEAs could utilize to increase public involvement. The
- 23 reg does allow LEAs to pretty much pick and choose and do
- 24 whatever they want to do. And so an effort to continue to
- 25 itemize things we thought would just not be needed and

- 1 would be better to be outside the regs but certainly made
- 2 available through training and guidance.
- 3 The regulations do continue to require noticing
- 4 for RFI amendments, which is new, and also noticing for
- 5 modified permits, as well as noticing for new permits. So
- 6 those are all new items that had never occurred in regs
- 7 before. The only noticing that occurs currently without
- 8 these regs under statute is for revised permits.
- 9 So the regs, even though we did get several
- 10 comments relative to these new noticing requirements for
- 11 RFI, modified and new permits, we felt that it was -- by
- 12 continuing to include them, we were being consistent with
- 13 1497 language that spoke to environmental justice issues
- 14 relative to the permit process.
- 15 The regs continue to require operators to provide
- 16 information to the Board relative to -- as well as the LEA
- 17 relative to the various opportunities that the public may
- 18 have had to learn about their project that's being covered
- 19 by the Solid Waste Facility Permit.
- 20 We continue to pass on the responsibility to
- 21 notice operators of their requirement to apply for a
- 22 five-year review for registration in standardized permits.
- 23 The LEAs currently notice operators for full permits.
- 24 And, again, we have not seen anything from the commenters
- 25 to indicate that there's a need for the Board to continue

- 1 in that role, and that the LEAs could do that. We will
- 2 continue to offer support to the LEAs certainly in the
- 3 transition, if not further into the future, to help them
- 4 in monitoring and facilitating that review notice process.
- 5 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Mark, so how will we
- 6 know if the LEA doesn't notify? I mean do we keep a
- 7 list we're going to know --
- 8 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- 9 We have the dates in our database, and we'll be
- 10 tracking that either through, you know, day-to-day staff
- 11 process or certainly in the evaluation process once every
- 12 three years. That would be something to look at to see if
- 13 the LEA did carry out that responsibility or not. But we
- 14 do track those dates. And that would probably be part of
- 15 our function, at least initially, is to assist the LEAs in
- 16 setting up some sort of tracking system or monitoring
- 17 system and then helping them with that.
- 18 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Okay. Thank you.
- 19 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- 20 The regs continue to require LEAs to have an
- 21 inspection program that allows or requires unannounced and
- 22 random inspections whenever it's possible.
- 23 And, lastly, the regs continue to attempt to
- 24 clarify the relationship between local land-use approvals
- 25 and the Solid Waste Facility Permit application process.

- 1 And during this last comment period we did
- 2 receive again several comments relative to this issue and
- 3 the changes that staff had made and the Committee had
- 4 asked to be noticed in this area.
- 5 Right now the regs would do a couple things in
- 6 this area. One is to pull out the land-use -- the
- 7 requirement that the applicant provide the LEA with a
- 8 land-use permit, if there is one, as part of the
- 9 application package.
- I should note that the LEA continues to have some
- 11 authority to require additional information to be provided
- 12 to them in the application process. So certainly the LEA
- 13 could potentially choose to ask the operator to provide
- 14 them with additional information that might include the
- 15 land-use approval. So it would be available to them
- 16 either through the applicant or, you know, through their
- 17 working with sister agencies they could access that
- 18 information. So we're not writing anything in the regs
- 19 that would prevent the LEA from getting that information.
- 20 We are indicating that there could be a new
- 21 obligation of the applicant to provide notice to the
- 22 land-use authority that they are requesting a Solid Waste
- 23 Facility Permit or -- new permit or a revision to the
- 24 permit or modification to the permit to the LEA by
- 25 providing a copy of the application form to the local

- 1 land-use authority. And the intent of that was that there
- 2 would be a communication bridge built so that if the land
- 3 use authority saw some issues, they could raise that,
- 4 bring that to everyone's attention and start working from
- 5 their side of the table on that issue.
- 6 We have increased the level of guidance in the
- 7 regs in the form of a note indicating that when the LEA
- 8 sits down to write the Solid Waste Facility Permit, that
- 9 would be an appropriate time to take into consideration to
- 10 have in front of them all of the approvals relative to
- 11 that site, be it land use, be it approvals from the air
- 12 district, Water Board, Fish and Game, whatever might be
- 13 appropriate for that particular site, so that they can
- 14 write a permit that is certainly not in conflict with
- 15 those permits that would sort of negate them somehow, but
- 16 also just to have a greater awareness of what the
- 17 limitations, what the restrictions, what the requirements
- 18 are on that site so they can write a solid, enforceable
- 19 permit for the areas within their authority.
- 20 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Excuse me. If you say
- 21 that you should have all those other permits in front of
- 22 them so they can write a permit that takes all that in to
- 23 consideration, why would we take out the requirement then
- 24 that the other use permits be provided to the LEA?
- 25 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:

- 1 We're taking out the requirement that it's the
- 2 applicant's job to provide that to the LEA. And the main
- 3 reason is, in trying to seek greater clarity about what
- 4 the role of land use is in the application process, we
- 5 found that LEAs were implementing the process in different
- 6 ways. We had some LEAs that recognized the land-use
- 7 permit as part of the application package and applied
- 8 their requirement to deem the package complete and correct
- 9 on the land use. So basically they ended up judging the
- 10 land-use permit relative to what was being requested of
- 11 them through the Solid Waste Facility Permit process and
- 12 determining whether or not it was consistent with that and
- 13 opining whether it was consistent or not.
- 14 We had a number of LEAs say, "What you're asking
- 15 of me in the Solid Waste Facility Permit is inconsistent,
- 16 in my opinion as the LEA, with this land-use approval.
- 17 Therefore, your permit application is incomplete. Go
- 18 away, come back when I can determine that the land-use
- 19 approval is consistent with what you're asking in the
- 20 permit process."
- 21 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: And I'm thinking -- I
- 22 guess what I'm thinking what's wrong with that, don't we
- 23 want them to make sure that they're consistent?
- 24 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- Well, in staff's view it was the LEA making a

- 1 determination about another entity's permit and then
- 2 making a decision about the LEA's permit process.
- 3 So what the regs have tried to do is craft a
- 4 process where the local land-use authority has a greater
- 5 awareness of what's going on. So if the local land-use
- 6 authority says, "Wait a minute, you need to do something
- 7 with us first," they can come to the table and make that
- 8 statement --
- 9 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: So by requiring them to
- 10 send the Solid Waste Permit --
- 11 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- 12 -- application --
- 13 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: -- to the Land Use
- 14 Department, we're leaving like in their hands to say
- 15 whether it is --
- 16 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- 17 That would allow them a greater awareness of
- 18 what's going on and not, you know, avoid some of the
- 19 potential back-door process where someone's jumping ahead
- 20 to the LEA and not working through their land-use
- 21 requirement. So it would allow a greater awareness.
- 22 And, you know, we did receive a lot of comments
- 23 in this area. And one of the items that staff sort of
- 24 focused on as potentially something that we could add to
- 25 the regs is to try to -- well, we looked at one of the

- 1 mechanisms that was suggested by the stakeholder that in
- 2 our view would actually pretty much force an applicant to
- 3 deal with the land-use people before they came to the LEA.
- 4 And that is to require the applicant to provide the LEA a
- 5 letter from the land-use authority that would, for all
- 6 intents and purposes, say, "You're fine with us. You've
- 7 done what you need to do."
- 8 So there's some pros with that. The pros being
- 9 that if you can't get a letter from the land use, that
- 10 means that potentially there's an issue with land use and
- 11 that that needs to be worked out. And that's a good thing
- 12 because the land-use approval should be one of the first
- 13 things that are worked out.
- 14 The cons are you might not be able to get a
- 15 letter because "we're too busy to write letters and
- 16 there's no reason why we have to write a letter. And so,
- 17 you know, we're not going to write a letter." And so the
- 18 applicant can't provide a letter to the LEA.
- 19 It's staff's opinion that we can't write a
- 20 regulation that requires every local land-use authority in
- 21 the State of California to write letters. So it would be
- 22 up to the applicant and their ability to lobby and cajole
- 23 and, you know, whatever methodology they can to try to get
- 24 a letter out of the land-use authority before they went to
- 25 the LEA. And that may not be practical.

- 1 So it has been floated. There are some merits to
- 2 it. But because of more -- I think in staff's opinion the
- 3 cons maybe outweigh the pros on that, that we have not
- 4 included that aspect in the regs at this time.
- 5 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Because I got a
- 6 little -- a letter here, a little comment here, and I'm
- 7 sure this is true. It says, "Regardless of any terms and
- 8 conditions imposed on the Solid Waste Facility Permit, the
- 9 requirements imposed by the CUP are still binding," and
- 10 they take precedent, so I would say, over this permit.
- 11 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- 12 Right.
- COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Now, is that then made
- 14 clear in the regulations, that anything the CUP is --
- 15 takes precedence over anything written in the permit?
- 16 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- 17 Yeah, there are statements in the regs -- in the
- 18 sort of the preamble part of the regs as well as in
- 19 statute that clearly indicates that nothing that we do in
- 20 regs can supersede, take precedent over some other
- 21 entity's approval or requirement, and certainly not land
- 22 use. So if there is a -- if there is a conflict in that,
- 23 you know, the operator would need to abide by the more
- 24 restrictive requirement until there's consistency
- 25 established.

- 1 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Okay.
- 2 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- 3 So with that overview -- and, again, staff is
- 4 available to answer your questions about any specific
- 5 changes. And I believe in a Attachment 2 the changes that
- 6 were made between the last version that the Committee saw
- 7 and this are highlighted in yellow for -- and double --
- 8 underlined double, strike out -- oh, bolded too, sorry --
- 9 yellow and bolded so you can find them quickly. But we
- 10 can go through those.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: I think it would helpful if we
- 12 went through those rather quickly, just again so we can
- 13 show everyone what was changed, and again the
- 14 justification for perhaps not going out for an additional
- 15 15-day public comment period.
- 16 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- 17 Okay.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: So with that, please continue.
- 19 Thank you.
- 20 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- 21 All right. Bobbi reminded me that there are
- 22 copies in the back of the room, if people in the audience
- 23 want to read along. And it is on the website as
- 24 Attachment 2, if people are reading along listening on the
- 25 web.

- 1 The first change appears on page 2, line 22, 23.
- 2 And this is the change that I referred to earlier where we
- 3 were striking out some language that we had included in
- 4 the definition, to take out the CEQA reference and just
- 5 leave it as saying that "this definition only pertains to
- 6 making a determination relative to revision and no other
- 7 purpose."
- 8 The next change appears on page 6, line 12 and
- 9 13. And we had a comment indicating that it wasn't clear
- 10 what kind of meetings we were referring to. So we've
- 11 added language to indicate that we're looking for
- 12 information on public hearings and other meetings open to
- 13 the public. So private meetings would not need to be
- 14 listed by default.
- 15 And as we go through this, remember it's staff's
- 16 view that all of these are not substantial --
- 17 nonsubstantive changes. And right now we don't see a need
- 18 to go out to additional comment on these.
- On page 7, line 13, 14, we've added in the
- 20 specific references to the regulations that deal with
- 21 reported facility information for various types of
- 22 facilities; so landfills, transfer stations, compost
- 23 facilities, C&D facilities. So that people will know
- 24 exactly what we're talking about when we refer to RFIs.
- 25 Before we just had a general reference to all RFIs. But

- 1 now we've listed them out.
- 2 Certainly if we add any more new RFIs, we'll have
- 3 to come back and amend this and add it into the list. So
- 4 it reduces some flexibility there. But we wanted to be
- 5 responsive to the observation in the comments.
- 6 Oh, yes. Oh, thank you.
- 7 An important change is on page -- or line 14
- 8 where -- as I indicated previously, we tried to make it
- 9 clear that it's not just that you're on the list, but also
- 10 you have to meet the Criteria A through D relative to
- 11 minor change. So you have to be consistent with CEQA,
- 12 state minimum standards, the permit, be consistent with
- 13 the RFI as enumerated on the list. But we continue to
- 14 indicate that the list is not inclusive. So other changes
- 15 could meet the criteria and therefore be determined to be
- 16 minor. But at least the list there indicates some to
- 17 start from.
- 18 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: May I ask a question?
- 19 I know there was some concern over this, not only
- 20 by me but with staff, about leaving in the minor change
- 21 list, and then especially with adding that -- that it's
- 22 not all inclusive. That the minor change list, if it
- 23 meets these other criteria, then --
- 24 COMMITTEE MEMBER WIGGINS: They took it out.
- 25 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: No, they left it in

- 1 there. They left in that these minor changes include but
- 2 are not limited to. But they added that then they have to
- 3 meet -- they still have to meet the criteria. And I'm
- 4 trying to think who is it that determines if it meets the
- 5 criteria or not. The owner, the operator?
- 6 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- 7 The way the regs are laid out, it would be the
- 8 operator's responsibility to make that initial
- 9 determination. They would notice the LEA that they have
- 10 felt that the change that they wanted to make was minor,
- 11 based on the criteria and/or that they were on the list --
- 12 and were on the list -- were not on the list. I messed
- 13 that up. Sorry.
- 14 That they went through the criteria, made the
- 15 determination. And it was further supported because they
- 16 were on the list. They would notice the LEA. The LEA has
- 17 the ability to go back and look at that change and
- 18 determine whether or not they believe it met the criteria.
- 19 And if they feel that it did not meet the criteria or
- 20 there were some other issue with it, they could provide
- 21 that to the operator in writing, that finding, and then in
- 22 effect require the operator to either cease that activity
- 23 until they went through the proper channels or work out
- 24 some other --
- 25 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: But the operator does

- 1 have the ability to start making the change ahead of time,
- 2 because they just have to let the LEA notice -- they have
- 3 to notify them --
- 4 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- 5 No.
- 6 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: -- like after they make
- 7 the change, not before they make the change.
- 8 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- 9 Well, you know, I think the reality of the
- 10 current situation is we -- you have operators implementing
- 11 changes that they think they don't need approval right now
- 12 today, and that the LEA would uncover those during a
- 13 monthly inspection, once every 30 days. So I think, you
- 14 know, the dynamic is there. These regs indicate that in
- 15 some situations it's okay to do that, you know, and here's
- 16 how you figure out when it's okay and when it's not okay;
- 17 which has been missing in the regs before.
- 18 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: So if that's happening
- 19 now, then why do we need a minor change list if it's
- 20 happening now, if it seems like they're determining that
- 21 already now without a minor change list?
- 22 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- Yes.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: But isn't there a more formal
- 25 process now, Mark, though that --

- 1 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- 2 Now there's greater clarity about --
- 3 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Exactly.
- 4 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- 5 -- the criteria that should be imposed and the
- 6 process to deal with it certainly in the area if there's a
- 7 disagreement on what should be done.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Right. So there would
- 9 be -- yeah, there's again greater clarity and there's a
- 10 better -- there should be a better understanding on all
- 11 parties' parts. And, again, as far as if there is a
- 12 disagreement, the LEA then steps in and notifies the
- 13 operator.
- 14 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- 15 Right. We're not tying the hands of the LEA by
- 16 implementing this process. They still have the same
- 17 flexibility they have under the current scenario.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you.
- 19 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: What I recall from last
- 20 month was that there weren't really any of the LEAs that
- 21 really liked the significant change list. It's mostly the
- 22 operators that supported it. The LEAs really didn't like
- 23 the minor change list. They wanted to go through the
- 24 decision tree.
- 25 So I'm just trying to think. Do you think of any

- 1 consequences? Are there any bad consequences that could
- 2 happen because we are doing it this way and not leaving it
- 3 just to the decision tree? Because I'm looking at some of
- 4 these minor changes, where it says change in location of
- 5 where the back-up equipment can be sought. You know,
- 6 maybe that is -- maybe that could be something that's more
- 7 important. Changes to traffic patterns on site that do
- 8 not affect off-site traffic. I'm thinking, well, you
- 9 know, that could be a major thing.
- 10 I've been to landfills where, you know, C&D stuff
- 11 is going this way and the green waste is going this way
- 12 and the self-haulers are going this way. And who's not to
- 13 say that could be a major change that they shouldn't be
- 14 able just to go do without asking the LEA first. Changes
- 15 to equipment maintenance operations. Some of these things
- 16 sound like, gee, maybe the LEA should know of some of
- 17 these things before they're done. And that's what the
- 18 whole decision tree was all about, letting the LEA decide
- 19 when he thought they were significant, when they weren't.
- 20 So I still -- personally I still feel that
- 21 this -- especially when the LEAs and our staff are saying
- 22 they really didn't like the significant change list and
- 23 still wanted it to be the decision tree, that I'm still
- 24 wondering if we do this what consequences -- what are the
- 25 consequences of our actions that we might not even realize

- 1 today by doing this?
- 2 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: Ms. Peace, I think
- 3 it's -- as certainly everyone knows, that staff's original
- 4 recommendation was to not have the list, neither the
- 5 significant change list nor the minor change list, and to
- 6 rely on the decision tree methodology. With the direction
- 7 from the Committee last month and the various comments
- 8 that we received, not everyone will probably be happy with
- 9 including both lists.
- 10 But the linkage between the criteria and the
- 11 minor change list is very important. For example, any of
- 12 these changes still -- if they were initiated, they still
- 13 have to be consistent with state minimum standards, with
- 14 the underlying CEQA documents, and so on. So that's a
- 15 safeguard, if you will, for how these are approached and
- 16 what the LEA can then do in looking back at them.
- 17 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Still, we're leaving the
- 18 decisions up then to the operator and the owner by saying
- 19 that even if they're not on this list, but they meet this
- 20 criteria. And we're leaving it then to them to decide if
- 21 they meet the criteria or not. I'm concerned about that.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Well, why don't we -- well,
- 23 first of all, I understand that we're trying to get some
- 24 equipment in here. So perhaps we should take --
- 25 COMMITTEE MEMBER WIGGINS: I'm fine.

- 1 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: You're okay?
- 2 Okay. Then we'll hold off on taking a break for
- 3 now.
- 4 I'll let you finish your presentation. And then
- 5 we do have seven speakers. So we'll take the speakers
- 6 before we have any additional questions. Thank you.
- 7 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- 8 Okay. Why don't I try to go a little bit faster
- 9 through them. And then give me a sign if you want me to
- 10 slow down on any of these.
- 11 On page 8 there are a number of changes that I
- 12 believe are just the renumbering and slight editing of the
- 13 items on the list. Again, staff's view is they're not
- 14 substantive changes.
- 15 On page 9, line 13, there was a comment received
- 16 about the fact that the five-year permit review doesn't
- 17 always have to happen on a five-year period. It could
- 18 happen more frequently. It can't be less frequently, but
- 19 more frequently. So by including "five year" in there, we
- 20 seem to sort of lock it into that five year and reduce
- 21 some flexibility. That was not our intent. So we're just
- 22 saying during the regular permit review, be it every year
- 23 or every two years or at least every five years.
- 24 Page 12, line 34, I think is the next one, which
- 25 is a typo, Bobbi, that we caught, the point 4?

- 1 Yeah, okay.
- 2 And then on page 13, starting on line 25, I had
- 3 referred to the guidance in the regs to the LEA about what
- 4 kinds of information they should have in front of them
- 5 when writing the permit. So we've indicated that
- 6 certainly land use is one of the items. But then we went
- 7 back ten years or so and looked at what LEAs were getting
- 8 pre-1220 regulations and noted that they had a lot of
- 9 information that was being provided to them in the past
- 10 before state law changed to indicate that the LEA should
- 11 not duplicate and overlap with other entities. So we
- 12 basically took many of the items from that old list and
- 13 embedded it in this note to indicate that the LEA should
- 14 still be aware and take into consideration at some level
- 15 these other approvals.
- On page 17 is some clarification language, some
- 17 legalese that was suggested by a stakeholder to add to
- 18 clarity by changing "compliance with" to "manner set forth
- 19 in".
- 20 Page 18 on line 42, we had inadvertently left in
- 21 "modified" in this section. And this section doesn't
- 22 apply the modified. I think we just cut and pasted some
- 23 language in and missed that piece. So we're striking
- 24 "modified".
- On page 19, the same language that I spoke of

1 before, the legal language about "a manner set forth in"

- 2 shows up in this section again.
- 3 On page 20, it includes specific RFI references
- 4 and edits to those.
- 5 Page 21, line 8, a stakeholder indicated that it
- 6 would be a good idea to throw the word "terms" in with the
- 7 list of items. So we've done that.
- 8 We've edited the flow charts that appears in a
- 9 note on page 22 to be consistent with changes that were
- 10 made in the regulations -- in the body of the regulations.
- 11 So then the next change is page 33, which again
- 12 is indicating the meetings, and our intent to indicate
- 13 public meetings. And again on 35, line 26, 27, the same
- 14 thing.
- 15 So those are the minor changes that we've made to
- 16 the regs in response to the comments.
- 17 And with that, maybe we could complete staff's
- 18 presentation by just indicating that the regulations as
- 19 they appear in Attachment 2 staff feel are ready to go
- 20 forward with an affirmative vote from this Committee, and
- 21 then referred to the full Board for their consideration.
- 22 The resolution -- draft of the resolution that
- 23 we've included does include language that would allow the
- 24 Board to consider the regs and approval of the regs, so it
- 25 wouldn't need to be revised.

- 1 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Okay. Thank you very much,
- 2 Mark.
- 3 And, again, thank you, staff, for all of your
- 4 hard work on this important set of regulations.
- 5 As I mentioned, we have seven speakers. I'm
- 6 going to ask if you could limit your comments to three
- 7 minutes, because we do have a meeting later this afternoon
- 8 that we have to get to. Actually we have one I think at
- 9 12 or 12:30.
- 10 So with that, our first speaker is Rebecca
- 11 Lafrieniere, City of San Diego LEA.
- 12 Good morning.
- 13 MS. LAFRIENIERE: Good morning, Madam Chair and
- 14 Board members. My name's Rebecca Lafrieniere and I
- 15 represent the City of San Diego Solid Waste Local
- 16 Enforcement Agency.
- 17 I'd like to thank Board staff for their effort
- 18 and time in the development of the work groups involving
- 19 both LEAs and industry perspective as well as the
- 20 opportunity to review and provide comments on the draft
- 21 permit implementation regulations.
- 22 As mentioned previously in comment letters and
- 23 testimony provided at the September Permitting and
- 24 Enforcement Committee meeting, the LEA strongly supports
- 25 the decision tree concept. The decision tree provides for

- 1 on efficient processing of operational and design changes
- 2 at solid waste facilities based on the resultant impacts
- 3 of the proposed change.
- 4 I'd like to emphasize the real benefit of the
- 5 decision tree concept is the elimination of the
- 6 one-size-fits-all approach. Not only does this decision
- 7 tree acknowledge the diversity of California as a whole,
- 8 but the diversity that exists within an LEA's
- 9 jurisdiction.
- 10 In San Diego County, we have landfills in
- 11 urbanized areas, rural areas, military bases, as well as
- 12 in the desert. Each facility is very unique.
- 13 For the same reasons we support the decision tree
- 14 model, we adamantly oppose Section 21620(a)(4)(a) through
- 15 (d), previously referred to as the Alternative 3
- 16 Significant Change List. This approach does not
- 17 implement -- or this approach does implement a
- 18 one-size-fits-all approach and totally disregards local
- 19 conditions and/or issues at a facility.
- The significant change list does not need to be
- 21 independent of the decision tree. It is simply not needed
- 22 with the decision tree approach.
- 23 Lastly, the LEA continues to support the removal
- 24 of the land-use and conditional-use permits as a
- 25 requirement for a complete and correct Solid Waste

- 1 Facility Permit application.
- 2 Further, the LEA supports the approach taken in
- 3 Section 21650(i), that an LEA takes into consideration
- 4 Public Resources Code 44012, which requires the LEA to
- 5 ensure that primary consideration is given to protecting
- 6 public health and safety and preventing environmental
- 7 damage and a long-term protection of the environment.
- 8 The LEA agrees that all LEAs should be aware of
- 9 and take into consideration other permits and approvals
- 10 including waste discharge requirements and CUPs when
- 11 writing permit terms and conditions. As written, the
- 12 proposed regulation acknowledges the land-use permit, but
- 13 it does not put the LEA in the undesirable position of
- 14 enforcing local land-use permit conditions through its
- 15 Solid Waste facility Permit.
- And I'd like to share one example with you.
- 17 Several years ago the Sycamore landfill revised
- 18 its planned development permit, which is its local
- 19 land-use permit, when it implemented a sand and gravel
- 20 operation in preparation of Stage 3 development. In the
- 21 planned development permit, not only was the hours of
- 22 operation of the landfill revised, but it also implemented
- 23 internal hours of operation for the sand and gravel. When
- 24 the Solid Waste Facility Permit was revised, the hours of
- 25 operation was based on the environmental document that was

- 1 analyzed. And the LEA did not include in the subset hours
- 2 of the sand and gravel operation.
- 3 However, within a year and a half the operator
- 4 approached the local land-use entity and requested that
- 5 those hours -- those modified hours for the sand and
- 6 gravel be revised to the actual hours of the landfill.
- 7 And the local land-use agency was able to do this through
- 8 a substantial conformance. Had I written that into the
- 9 Solid Waste Facility Permit, it would have required a full
- 10 revision for that.
- 11 And, again, the way the Solid Waste Facility
- 12 Permit was written was based on the environmental document
- 13 analysis.
- 14 That concludes my presentation. Thank you.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Rebecca.
- 16 Our next speaker is Pamela Raptis.
- 17 MS. RAPTIS: Thank you, Madam Chair, Committee
- 18 members. Pamela Raptis. I'm with the County of San Diego
- 19 Solid Waste Local Enforcement Agency.
- 20 And I would like to also thank your staff for
- 21 their time, their effort and their diligence in developing
- 22 such a comprehensive and complete, though, in our opinion,
- 23 flawed 1497 Permit Implementation Regulation.
- As we have stated several times over the process
- 25 of this Committee, we do oppose many of the changes that

- 1 have been added to the 1497 concept. And, that is, that
- 2 we don't believe CIWMB has the authority to add additional
- 3 requirements that were not initially put into the 1497
- 4 statute.
- 5 I believe that you -- that these additions do
- 6 impact the ability of the local enforcement agency to make
- 7 our decisions. And it also adds mandates that were not
- 8 initially put into the program.
- 9 We would also request that the minor change list
- 10 be removed from these regulations. We believe it would be
- 11 best placed in a guidance document as an LEA advisory or
- 12 other form of guidance to assist both the LEAs and the
- 13 operators in making decisions as to what is a minor change
- 14 or not. But to place the position of the LEA to have to
- 15 make a decision after a change has occurred puts us in a
- 16 position of doing after and knee-jerk reactions as opposed
- 17 to being able to sit down at the table, talk with the
- 18 operator and make that decision together.
- 19 The County of San Diego's Local Enforcement
- 20 Agency works extensively with our land-use agencies and
- 21 other sister agencies within our jurisdictions to talk to
- 22 the operators in regards to all changes that are occurring
- 23 in those implementations and impacts that will occur prior
- 24 to that process. We request that you do not take that
- 25 form of authority away from us and mandate it through a

- 1 regulation that for us would be difficult to then enforce.
- 2 And, lastly, we would like to ask that you take
- 3 out the significant change list and put this back into a
- 4 decision tree process only. That allows, again, all the
- 5 agencies, the operator and the local enforcement agency to
- 6 meet at the table to make a decision and work forward in a
- 7 manner that allows decisions to be made prior to and with
- 8 all intents on the table.
- 9 So we request those changes be made. We also
- 10 request that this go back out for the 15 day, so that
- 11 other agencies can make comments in regards to that, and
- 12 that this be put off until the November Committee to be
- 13 reheard.
- 14 Thank you very much.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Pam.
- Our next speaker is Matt Fore.
- 17 MR. FORE: Good morning Madam Chair, members of
- 18 the Board. My name is Matt Fore. I'm here first
- 19 representing the Enforcement Advisory Council. And before
- 20 I get started with my comments, I just would like to
- 21 invite each of you to our next EAC meeting, which will be
- 22 held on December 5th in this building.
- 23 And the role of the EAC is to evaluate the
- 24 real-world implementation of the regulations that you all
- 25 promulgate, and wear your proverbial boots on the ground,

- 1 so to speak, in that process.
- 2 So not to be too repetitive, but the EAC does
- 3 greatly appreciate Mark and Becky's works on this
- 4 inclusive regulation development process.
- 5 So first, as I said, my comments are representing
- 6 the EAC. The EAC met on September 5th of this year, and
- 7 the Board reached a unanimous consensus on the following
- 8 position of the most recent draft of the regulations:
- 9 First, we oppose the inclusion of the significant
- 10 change list. Rather, the EAC strongly supports the
- 11 decision tree, as it is the best vehicle for evaluating
- 12 the significance of a change while preserving our local
- 13 discretion.
- 14 Secondly, the EAC supports staff's recommendation
- 15 regarding the relationship of the Solid Waste Facilities
- 16 Permit to other land-use processes. And we feel that the
- 17 draft language reinforces the connection between the two
- 18 processes while removing potential and actual conflicts.
- 19 Thirdly, the EAC continues to oppose the minor
- 20 change list, as we have related to you in both written and
- 21 verbal comments throughout this process.
- 22 Now I'd like to switch hats. And as I will do
- 23 from time to time, I'd like to now address you as the
- 24 Chair of the South Central LEA Roundtable, which is a
- 25 collection of ten small rural LEAs throughout the Central

- 1 Valley.
- We're disappointed that staff has yet to
- 3 incorporate our proposed triggers for additional public
- 4 notification and informational hearings into the
- 5 regulations. To be clear -- and I want this to -- I do
- 6 want you to be clear on this -- we do fully support all of
- 7 the increased public notification and opportunities for
- 8 the public to be aware of and to comment and have a stake
- 9 in in projects at solid waste facilities.
- 10 And we feel that all -- excuse me -- and we fully
- 11 support the idea of, you know, of this participation and
- 12 the agency's larger environmental justice goals.
- 13 Although the blanket one-size-fits-all
- 14 requirements are too stringent in the rural setting given
- 15 the context of rural counties, and we feel that our
- 16 proposed changes will align with the Board's broader goals
- 17 as well.
- 18 There are significant differences between urban
- 19 and rural counties. And we understand that in the urban
- 20 setting, increased and dramatically increased public
- 21 comment may be warranted. In the urban setting we often
- 22 hear of facilities striving to create and maintain a
- 23 thousand foot buffer zone between the nearest sensitive
- 24 receptors and the project boundary. In rural counties
- 25 it's not uncommon to have a mile or more buffer zone

- 1 between the nearest individuals and the project boundary.
- Board staff has contended that public meetings
- 3 are not held consistently or are too old to be useful to
- 4 the solid waste facility process. And on this point we
- 5 also disagree. We feel that especially with new projects,
- 6 the greatest amount of public comment and chances for
- 7 public input will be for new projects, as most of them
- 8 feature some sort of discretionary permit that's required
- 9 and some sort of environmental review, be it for a zone
- 10 change, for a zoning change, or a use permit.
- 11 For rural LEAs working with skeleton staffs,
- 12 posting notices and conducting informational hearings,
- 13 although it doesn't sound like much, when the -- after
- 14 drafting the notice, translating it, securing purchase
- 15 orders, placing the notices in the local newspapers, and
- 16 conducting the hearings, we fear that these additional
- 17 public noticing and posting requirements will divert very
- 18 slim and valuable resources from our current inspection
- 19 and enforcement programs.
- 20 Again, we would gladly support these additional
- 21 requirements if they were fruitful. However, in my
- 22 experience, after having held several public hearings and
- 23 posting requirements in facilities where the nearest
- 24 residents were more than a while away, nobody showed up
- 25 and I didn't receive any comments.

- 1 For this reason, the South Central LEA Roundtable
- 2 proposes several triggers for conducting additional
- 3 noticing which are completely consistent with the
- 4 environmental justice goals of both this Board and Cal EPA
- 5 as a whole.
- 6 We propose four triggers:
- 7 First, when the most recent CEQA hearing is more
- 8 than a year old.
- 9 Second, where public interest in the project
- 10 warrants additional public meetings. For example, when a
- 11 planning commission hearing is appealed to the larger
- 12 board of supervisors, indicating controversy or larger
- 13 public interest.
- 14 Third, where the proximity or density of
- 15 sensitive receptors warrants additional notification. For
- 16 example, where habitable structures are located less than
- 17 2500 feet from the facility boundary.
- 18 Or, fourth, when the LEA has received requests
- 19 from the public for information about the project.
- 20 In sum, the small rural counties or LEAs of the
- 21 South Central Roundtable believe that our proposed
- 22 triggers for additional noticing provide an effective
- 23 mechanism for ensuring public input, while preventing the
- 24 diversion of critical enforcement resources where the
- 25 noticing requirements would yield minimal, if any,

- 1 benefits.
- 2 Thank you.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you.
- 4 Our next speaker is Larry Sweetser.
- 5 MR. SWEETSER: Good morning, Board members.
- 6 Larry Sweetser on behalf of the Rural Counties
- 7 Environmental services Joint Powers authority.
- 8 I want going to keep it real quick, but I think
- 9 I'd better address a few points that came up. But I'll
- 10 still keep it quick.
- We do support the decision tree process. We've
- 12 kind of gone back and forth on the lists. I guess the key
- 13 thing is we can live with the lists as guidance. It
- 14 wasn't too onerous for us when we pulled our members.
- 15 And especially if there's a concern about
- 16 somebody trying to get away with something under the minor
- 17 change list repeatedly, I think there's enough check and
- 18 balance in the process that if the LEAs don't like what
- 19 they see, they can issue a violation or other sort of
- 20 notice that to stop what they're doing. So I think
- 21 there's enough leeway to do that in there. And any
- 22 operator that doesn't maintain the dialogue with the LEA
- 23 on forthcoming changes is going to be in trouble anyway.
- On the point the previous speaker just mentioned
- 25 about the LEAs in the rural areas, we do support making it

- 1 easier in that process. There are differences out there.
- 2 But as -- the members when I talked to at least our
- 3 counties, the basic decision we'd come down to with this
- 4 entire package is we can live with it. We can continue
- 5 tweaking it for a quite a period of time if we want or we
- 6 can just get on with the implementing the package.
- 7 So thank you.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you.
- 9 Our next speaker is Chuck White.
- 10 MR. WHITE: Thank you very much, Madam Chair and
- 11 members of the Committee. Chuck White with Waste
- 12 Management.
- 13 My apologies for coming in somewhat informal
- 14 apparel. But I'm in the process of moving, and I couldn't
- 15 find my more formal attire. And I'm not talking about
- 16 moving to Las Vegas. I'm --
- 17 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Well, actually, Chuck, we have
- 18 a picture of you in a little bit more formal attire of
- 19 yours though.
- 20 MR. WHITE: I'm shocked to hear that.
- 21 But I do appreciate the opportunity to come to
- 22 speak to you on this. We have -- it has been a great
- 23 process and we've all learned a lot about the whole
- 24 permitting process, myself included on that.
- I think in general our concerns have been wanting

- 1 to make sure that there was some reasonable clarity on
- 2 what constituted insignificant changes that really
- 3 shouldn't be delaying the process to make changes to
- 4 on-site activities that are not really going to be a major
- 5 problem and would allow the facility and the operator to
- 6 move forward with those insignificant changes without
- 7 being worried about permit delays and this sort of thing.
- 8 And I think the minor change list has really done that
- 9 very well.
- 10 I don't have a problem with the additional
- 11 language, I don't think. Although I haven't had a chance
- 12 to really review it in length. So I guess my biggest
- 13 concern about the minor change list is the added citation
- 14 on page 7 of 12 and 13, which another specific section
- 15 references, that I don't think are a problem. But I
- 16 honestly tell you I haven't gone back and read those
- 17 sections to know exactly what they say and how they relate
- 18 to this, so it's difficult to say, yeah, everything's
- 19 fine.
- 20 And from that standpoint it would be nice to have
- 21 a little more time to go back and see just to make sure
- 22 that I feel comfortable that this change is not going to
- 23 be a problem for us.
- I think that it's really good to have this minor
- 25 change list in here because it does set a fairly clear

- 1 area of the things that really should be below the radar
- 2 screen that are not significant. But if for any reason,
- 3 as previously speakers have indicated, that there's a
- 4 track record of abuse, you -- LEA still has to be notified
- 5 that these changes are being made. And if they feel that
- 6 they're inappropriate or don't meet the criteria, or other
- 7 wise the LEA believes they're not significant, they can
- 8 take an enforcement action against us for doing that. And
- 9 I think that's an appropriate check and balance and I
- 10 think should give some additional comfort for leaving this
- 11 minor change list in.
- 12 The other area of concern, it actually has to do
- 13 with the significant change list, which is on page 10 --
- 14 and I've raised these concerns before. And, again, it's
- 15 not about these things being significant. I mean all of
- 16 these things certainly are significant changes, or can be
- 17 significant changes. But, again, my concern is, could
- 18 there be diminimous changes that would be associated with
- 19 one of these four things that would automatically require
- 20 a full permit revision even though they would be of
- 21 diminimous nature?
- 22 And I hesitated to bring up the Bradley landfill.
- 23 But that was the whole reason that this whole process
- 24 started in the first place. And without going into too
- 25 much detail, the whole thing had to do with a discrepancy

- 1 between the CUP and the solid waste permit on a ten-foot
- 2 height of a landfill, and what was said in the CUP and
- 3 what was said in the solid waste permit. And basically
- 4 the whole purpose of that exercise was to try to resolve
- 5 in some consistency between the two permits, that for
- 6 whatever reason in the historical past had diverted the
- 7 language between the two.
- 8 And so I am worried about minor adjustments in
- 9 languages between permits when one permit says one thing
- 10 and one says another, and you're trying to resolve that
- 11 minor detail inconsistency.
- 12 And an example would be, for example, the
- 13 facility's permitted acreage. If you've got a transfer
- 14 station and you add an additional parcel to that transfer
- 15 station and you're storing empty containers on that parcel
- 16 but you don't include it, would that be considered an
- 17 expansion of the permitted facility? Even though you're
- 18 not keeping any waste on that facility, there are
- 19 operations that are related to that facility that you're
- 20 doing. And would the LEA say, "Gee, you didn't seek to
- 21 get a revision," even though you may be storing empty
- 22 containers associated with that? Maybe the staff can
- 23 offer some clarification and some increased comfort level.
- 24 But we may very well want to buy property
- 25 adjacent to our existing operations and try to keep the

non-waste activities on those parcels. And I just don't

- 2 want to have this language in any way, in B, somehow imply
- 3 that we need to get a full permit revision for doing those
- 4 kinds of things.

- 5 The other minor concern is -- on D, where it says
- 6 the permitted final grade. Now, I understand what you're
- 7 trying to do. You don't want to have major changes in the
- 8 final grade of a landfill. But if for some reason you
- 9 have a drainage problem develop on the surface of the
- 10 landfill and you want to regrade that landfill to make it
- 11 more amenable to control erosion because of practices, you
- 12 may have to go in and make very minor changes in that
- 13 grading pattern. But as Mark de Bie said, these changes
- 14 would always require a revised permit, and it's totally
- 15 independent of the decision tree.
- So if I have to go in and make a minor change to
- 17 the final grade of a permit to make a safer drainage
- 18 pattern coming down off that landfill, one could make the
- 19 argument that this is a change that would require a
- 20 revision to the permit. Now, I hope that's not the case,
- 21 and I hope there's some other way of looking at it. But,
- 22 again, it's not that I'm trying to do a jailbreak here or
- 23 do any major changes. But I'm worried about, again, those
- 24 diminimous minor changes that really we don't have time to
- 25 be worrying about through the whole permitting process;

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- 1 and we'd like to get on with our business and make these
- 2 adjustments but don't want to have to be burdened by, you
- 3 know, unreasonable oversight and review on just making
- 4 these minor changes.

- 6 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Go ahead, Board Member
- 7 Wiggins.
- 8 COMMITTEE MEMBER WIGGINS: It actually says in
- 9 the minor changes that "the acquisition of property
- 10 adjacent to the facility if not used for solid waste
- 11 activity." So that's something you brought up and it's
- 12 covered.
- MR. WHITE: I hope that's the case.
- 14 So that's my -- I guess my general concern is --
- 15 I don't want to be the person holding up these
- 16 regulations. I'd like to get them finalized. Been
- 17 working on them for a long time. I haven't had a chance
- 18 to review all these new changes that we're seeing here. I
- 19 don't know exactly -- I think they're not a significant
- 20 concern. But I am a little -- I'm also a little worried
- 21 about the significant change list and that there might be
- 22 some diminimous changes that would be in one of those four
- 23 categories that might trigger a full permit revision
- 24 without really I think anybody's intent in doing so.
- Thank you.

- 1 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Well, Chuck, it sounds
- 2 to me like you want it both ways. So if you agree to give
- 3 up the major -- if we agree to take out the significant
- 4 change list and we agree then to take out the minor change
- 5 list and just leave it up to the decision tree, I'll agree
- 6 with you.
- 7 MR. WHITE: My concern has always been trying to
- 8 create a breakpoint where the permit doesn't have to reach
- 9 down into areas that are truly insignificant in nature and
- 10 we don't have to be constantly debating this insignificant
- 11 level. So I think the minor change list is good. I'm
- 12 just worried about other minor insignificant changes that
- 13 might be inadvertently captured by some of the other
- 14 language.
- 15 I'm perfectly okay with you to go ahead with
- 16 these regulations today and move them forward for
- 17 adoption. I'm just telling you some of the concerns that
- 18 I have related to the language that I see. And I'm
- 19 worried about what a future interpretation might be. When
- 20 I want to put a drainage channel in at the top of a
- 21 landfill and it changes the final grade slightly, does
- 22 that mean -- is someone going to come long and say I need
- 23 to have a permit revision because of that minor change in
- 24 grade?
- 25 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:

- 1 Madam Chair? Mark de Bie.
- 2 We can help Chuck with his concerns --
- 3 MR. WHITE: I knew he could.
- 4 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- 5 -- now or, you know, between now and the Board
- 6 meeting we can meet with Chuck and talk through that.
- 7 It's your pleasure if you want us to indicate an initial
- 8 response.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: I mean if you could briefly
- 10 respond to it. We've got a time clock we're working under
- 11 here.
- 12 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- 13 Very quickly, Chuck. And if we need to talk
- 14 more, we're certainly available to you.
- 15 Relative to the items on the significant change
- 16 list: First, staff's observation is that we did not --
- 17 this is not a change that was subject to comment during
- 18 the 15-day comment period.
- 19 Relative to Item B, it indicates the permitted
- 20 acreage of the facility. So if the facility's permit, the
- 21 acreage in the permit that the LEA wrote is not changing,
- 22 then it wouldn't require a revision. So if the facility's
- 23 adding acreage but do not intend to include that as part
- 24 of the permitted acreage, then it would not be on this
- 25 list. It would be something different than that.

- 1 It's important though I think to have permitted
- 2 acreage, because if you're a landfill your permitted
- 3 boundary is your compliance boundary for landfill gas. So
- 4 that needs to be looked at and see. And the appropriate
- 5 place might be a revision to look at that kind of item.
- 6 Relative to the Item D, the intent was to
- 7 indicate that if the maximum overall height at final grade
- 8 changes, then that would require a revision. So
- 9 intermediate heights changes would not trigger a revision.
- 10 If you thought you were going to fill up to a certain area
- 11 but you're not or you're going higher and that's not your
- 12 final grade as expressed, you're still within that. That
- 13 wouldn't require it. So it's just if you go beyond the
- 14 maximum height indicated for your final grade.
- 15 So if they're doing, you know, subtle changes to
- 16 the slope and that sort of thing for drainage but are
- 17 still within that maximum height, that wouldn't trigger a
- 18 revision. But if they went up higher, then that could --
- 19 or would require a revision.
- 20 And then I'm going to schedule some time with
- 21 Chuck to talk --
- 22 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: I think that would be helpful.
- 23 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- 24 -- about the Bradley situation because we see it
- 25 very differently.

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- 1 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: I think that would be very
- 2 helpful.
- 3 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- 4 There are many other issues associated with it
- 5 other than ten feet.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Okay.
- 7 MR. WHITE: Well, with those clarifications, I
- 8 mean I think that's very helpful.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Okay. Good.
- 10 MR. WHITE: Thank you.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you.
- 12 Our next speaker is Evan Edgar.
- 13 And we have two more after that. We have Chuck
- 14 Helget and then John Cupps.
- 15 MR. EDGAR: My name is George Eowan for CRRC.
- 16 (Laughter.)
- 17 MR. EDGAR: He waited 20 years for this moment of
- 18 significant change. He was on their early committees with
- 19 George Eowan, Vince Taormina, and from L.A. San folks. So
- 20 this is a big day to get this far on significant change.
- 21 And echoing both Larry Sweetser and Chuck White,
- 22 we can live with this. You know, we waited a long time,
- 23 there were a lot of workshops, everybody had a
- 24 collaborative effort. So we could live with this.
- But we do support the decision tree. But with

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- 1 any decision tree, you've got to have leaves and branches.
- 2 And those little leaves are the minor change lists. So we
- 3 would support the decision tree with a clarity, and that
- 4 we need in the industry, what is a minor change? So those
- 5 are the leaves on the tree because we have to see the
- 6 forest through the trees.
- 7 Thank you.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you.
- 9 Chuck Helget.
- 10 MR. HELGET: Madam Chair, members of the
- 11 Committee. Chuck Helget representing Allied Waste BFI.
- 12 We're in general very strong support of the
- 13 regulatory packages. And I would add that we certainly
- 14 have concerns and questions about the regulations. And I
- 15 have a list of about maybe 20 that Mark can clarify. But
- 16 I'll talk to him later on that detail.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you.
- 18 MR. HELGET: This is a good regulation --
- 19 regulatory package. We spent -- I was reminding some of
- 20 my friends in the back of the room that last year about
- 21 this time we were just embarking off on a long flurry of
- 22 holiday workshops, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years.
- 23 At that point in time I wasn't so sure that we would ever
- 24 produce a worthwhile package. But this is a worthwhile
- 25 package and one that we support.

- 1 There are certainly issues involved in this
- 2 package that aren't exactly the way that I would like
- 3 them, but overall as a whole it's a very good package.
- 4 My only comment I would make with regard to the
- 5 minor changes list, which we strongly support, is that
- 6 this list was a product of those workshops that we sat
- 7 through over the holidays. It wasn't just something that
- 8 came out of thin air. And, in fact, it was I think
- 9 initially as proposed by industry was probably 45 or 50
- 10 items. And that has been pared down significantly since
- 11 that point in time, with a variety of safeguards that have
- 12 been added, I think worthy safeguards that give the LEAs
- 13 flexibility and give staff some assurance that the
- 14 unscrupulous operators aren't out there that will take
- 15 advantage of the system.
- So I would urge the Committee to support this
- 17 package.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you.
- John Cupps.
- 20 MR. CUPPS: I don't really need to comment at
- 21 this point. Thank you.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Okay. Thank you.
- That concludes our public comment portion.
- 24 Committee members, questions, comments?
- 25 Pat.

- 1 Nothing?
- 2 COMMITTEE MEMBER WIGGINS: I'm ready for a
- 3 resolution.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: I think we have a question
- 5 though or comments from Board Member Peace first.
- 6 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: I just want to say, we
- 7 hear from industry that they don't want to have to go
- 8 through all this stuff on a minor change. But I hear from
- 9 the LEAs in the rural counties and the cities that they're
- 10 so -- have a skeleton staff, they're so over-burdened with
- 11 stuff, I can't imagine that they would want to do a
- 12 revision or something on a permit and go through all that
- 13 work if it really was an insignificant change.
- I guess I'm probably the only one, but I'm going
- 15 to say it again. I am not okay with the -- I guess I
- 16 could live with the significant change list, because if
- 17 you have the decision tree, it's going to trigger a
- 18 revision anyway.
- 19 But I really don't like that minor change list.
- 20 I would love to remove the minor change list, leave it up
- 21 to the LEA and the decision tree concept to -- you know,
- 22 LEAs to decide if it is indeed a minor change or not. As
- 23 we heard from the LEAs, each landfill, you know, is
- 24 unique. I'd like to take those -- the things listed in
- 25 the minor change list and just put it as an advisory, as

- 1 staff had recommended in the first place. And that that
- 2 advisory could be, as Evan said, leaves on the tree.
- 3 If we have a minor change list, at least we need
- 4 to delete the phrase "include but not limited to". As Pam
- 5 from San Diego said, the operator and the LEA need to
- 6 discuss changes before they're made, not after the fact.
- 7 Because when you discuss them after the fact, it could be
- 8 very difficult then to go back and reverse that.
- 9 So that is what I would like to do. I'd like to
- 10 remove the minor change list, leave it as an advisory, and
- 11 go out for another 15-day comment period.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Board Member Wiggins.
- 13 COMMITTEE MEMBER WIGGINS: I'd like to move
- 14 adoption of Resolution 2006-183.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: And I will second that.
- 16 Could you call the roll.
- 17 SECRETARY DUCLO: Members Peace?
- 18 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: No.
- 19 SECRETARY DUCLO: Wiggins?
- 20 COMMITTEE MEMBER WIGGINS: Aye.
- 21 SECRETARY DUCLO: Chair Mulé?
- 22 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Aye.
- Okay. That will go to the full Board.
- Okay. Thank you everyone for your participation,
- 25 comments.

- 1 Staff, thank you.
- 2 Let's move on to Committee Item D, Agenda Item
- 3 14.
- 4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: Thank you, Madam
- 5 Chair.
- This is one of our two permit items; the other,
- 7 which will be heard later this evening.
- 8 This should be pretty short, I hope.
- 9 This is Consideration of a New Full Solid Waste
- 10 Facilities Permit for the Goodyear Road Composting
- 11 Facility in Solano County.
- 12 And Christy Karl will make the staff presentation
- 13 on this.
- 14 MS. KARL: Good morning afternoon, Madam -- good
- 15 morning. It's been a long morning.
- Good afternoon, Madam Chair and members of the
- 17 Committee.
- 18 The item before you considers a new full
- 19 compostable materials handling facility permit for
- 20 Goodyear Road composting facility in Solano County. This
- 21 facility is owned and operated -- or owned by Goodyear
- 22 Partners LLC and operated by CCL Organics.
- 23 The operator is proposing to increase the
- 24 vehicles accessing the site from 60 to 100 vehicles per
- 25 day. The proposed permit also clarifies the hours of

- 1 operation and the volume of material to be received per
- 2 day, as these items were not conditioned by the previous
- 3 standardized permit.
- 4 Board staff has made all of the findings required
- 5 for the Board to concur in the issuance of the proposed
- 6 permit. Therefore, staff recommends the Board concur in
- 7 Permit Number 48-AA-0083 and adopt Resolution 2006-184.
- 8 This concludes my presentation. And the LEA and
- 9 operator are both present if you have questions.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Christine.
- 11 Are there any questions for staff or the
- 12 operator, the LEA on this item?
- Board Member Peace.
- 14 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: The only question I had
- 15 was with all the revisions and different things coming in
- 16 and the fact that it was submitted a little late, I just
- 17 want to feel that staff does feel that they had adequate
- 18 time to review this permit.
- 19 PERMITTING AND INSPECTION BRANCH MANAGER de BIE:
- 20 I'll answer that. Mark de Bie.
- 21 Yes, the revisions that we did deal with were --
- 22 resulted from some discussion that we had with the LEA.
- 23 So we anticipated those and were able to incorporate them
- 24 in our review. So, yes, we had adequate time.
- 25 Thank you.

92 1 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Okay. Any other questions? Do I have a motion? 2 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Well, I'd like to move 3 4 Resolution No. 2006-184 revised. 5 COMMITTEE MEMBER WIGGINS: Second. 6 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Okay. We have a motion by 7 Member Peace, seconded by Member Wiggins. 8 Would you call the roll, Donnell. 9 SECRETARY DUCLO: Members Peace? 10 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Aye. SECRETARY DUCLO: Wiggins? 11 COMMITTEE MEMBER WIGGINS: Aye. 12 13 SECRETARY DUCLO: Chair Mulé? 14 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Aye. That passes unanimously. And we can put that on 15 16 consent. Are there any other public comments? 17 This meeting then is adjourned to 5 p.m. today. 18 Thank you, all. 19 20 (Thereupon the California Integrated Waste 21 Management Board, Permitting and Enforcement Committee meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.) 22 23 24 25

93 1 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER I, JAMES F. PETERS, a Certified Shorthand 2 Reporter of the State of California, and Registered 3 4 Professional Reporter, do hereby certify: 5 That I am a disinterested person herein; that the 6 foregoing California Integrated Waste Management Board, 7 Permitting and Enforcement Committee meeting was reported in shorthand by me, James F. Peters, a Certified Shorthand 8 Reporter of the State of California, and thereafter 9 transcribed into typewriting. 10 I further certify that I am not of counsel or 11 attorney for any of the parties to said workshop nor in 12 any way interested in the outcome of said workshop. 13 14 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 27th day of October, 2006. 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 JAMES F. PETERS, CSR, RPR 24 Certified Shorthand Reporter License No. 10063 25